The Middlebury Campus

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Ice Dreams

Louisa Conrad

Performing a lay-back spin, *Gillian Wood '03 captivates the audience during the 2002 Winter Carnival Ice Show entitled 'Bedtime Stories.'*

Language, Senior Houses Swap Locations

By Chesley Thurber
Staff Writer

As a result of a proposal passed by the Community Council earlier this year concerning academic interest housing, the Italian, Russian and German houses will all be relocating next fall. The plan is designed to give the three language departments houses they can fill consistently and to further integrate them into the College community. While the language departments are pleased with the new plan, many students are likely to be angered by the loss of desirable senior housing.

The Italian, Russian and German houses will be occupying three of the current senior houses located just west of Proctor Hall, close to the Spanish House. The Italian House will move from Sperry House to Longwell House, the Russian House from 278 College St. to 70 Hillcrest and the German House from Turner House to 99 Adirondack. The programs hope to attract more students through better location, larger houses and a greater option of single room accommodations.

The location of language housing has proven to be critical to its success. "We recognize that while students may truly want to 'live in the language,' they are also understandably concerned with where they live," said Professor of French Nancy O'Connor, who helped write the proposal making these moves possible.

The central locations are designed not only to attract more students, but also to allow the houses to gain greater prominence in the overall campus community. Four language houses will now be in close proximity to each other allowing greater interaction between them. It will also place them closer to department offices at Hillcrest.

"We hope that the new location will help to support our mission and attract students, staff and faculty from all venues of this campus," commented Bettina Matthias, professor of German and German House advisor.

The new houses' room configurations were also key factors in the decision-making process. The Russian House, which previously accommodated three students, will now be able to expand to satisfy its high popularity. "[The Russian House] is so small, that if we plan a Russian dinner, [students] have to sit on the floor sometimes," commented Professor of Russian and Russian House Advisor Tatiana Smorodinskaya.

The new Italian House will be comprised of six singles. "We want to have sophomores, and we want to have seniors," said Professor of Italian and Italian House Advisor David Castronuovo. Without any double rooms, he added, "it's going to be much easier to have that balance."

Unfortunately, many of the features that make Longwell, 70 Hillcrest and 99 Adirondack so appealing to the language house program also make them attractive senior housing. In recent years, these three houses have been among the most sought after by rising seniors during block draw. The sensitive issue of the role of seniority in room draw has already sparked intense debate with the planned implementation of new commons-based regulations. Student Association Government (SGA) Junior Senator Matthew Kiefer '03 commented, "Senior housing is already a touchy issue, and many students feel that it is inadequate."

Despite the loss of these houses, several new alternative housing options will open up for seniors next year. "We should remember that there is going to be an increase in senior housing next year with the opening of the Ross Commons apartments," noted SGA Senator

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Professors Weigh In on National Black Studies Debate

By Tim McCahill
Managing Editor

News Analysis

The future course of black studies has come into focus among American academics in the field following a series of comments made by Lawrence Summers, the recently appointed president of Harvard University. Middlebury College professors in the field have heard much of the debate, but speculated that it had little bearing on the evolution of black studies at the College.

Summers, widely known for his combative style of management politics, raised eyebrows inside and outside academic circles for his criticism of Cornel West, a pioneer in the field of black studies and one of Harvard's most recognized professors. Summers' comments, detailed in a Feb. 12 article published in *The Christian Science Monitor*, were centered around West's recording of a rap CD and his close affiliation with controversial politician Al Sharpton.

The article cited Summers' comments as touching off a debate among black studies scholars on the nature of the discipline and its future in American colleges and universities.

As an academic discipline, black studies emerged in the late 1960s and early 1970s charged with the energy of the social activism of the era, maintaining its close affiliation with the Civil Rights Movement. According to *The Monitor* article, the first black studies department was founded in 1967 at San Francisco State University, representing a path-breaking approach to weaving a variety of academic disciplines — including political science and history — into a single program.

Development of black studies was accelerated by the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. in 1968, and by 1975 "there were 65 academic departments offering bachelor's degrees in the field at various U.S. colleges and universities," according to *The Monitor* piece.

As black studies evolved, however, its activist roots were gradually supplanted by an orientation that was more scholarly in nature. *The Monitor* article cited the field's expanding interdisciplinary approach to detailing the African American experience, with many institutions of higher learning adopting an even more diverse ap-

(see College, page 2)

Scharstein Garners Perkins Award

By Craig Szela
Staff Writer

At Middlebury College teaching excellence measured through student evaluation is a criterion for promotion and pay raises. It is also a criterion for the Perkins Award. This award, established in 1993 by the Perkins family, recognizes teaching excellence in the natural nciences. This year's recipient is Assistant Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science Daniel Scharstein.

Scharstein said that he makes it a point to understand his students. "It has to do with having some sort of feel for how the students are liking it," he commented. On top of taking into account the student evaluation forms, he explained, "I also do my own mid-term evaluations to get more-feedback."

Along with his attention to students' needs, it is his enthusiasm that sets him apart. "Sometimes they say what they like is my energy," stated Scharstein.

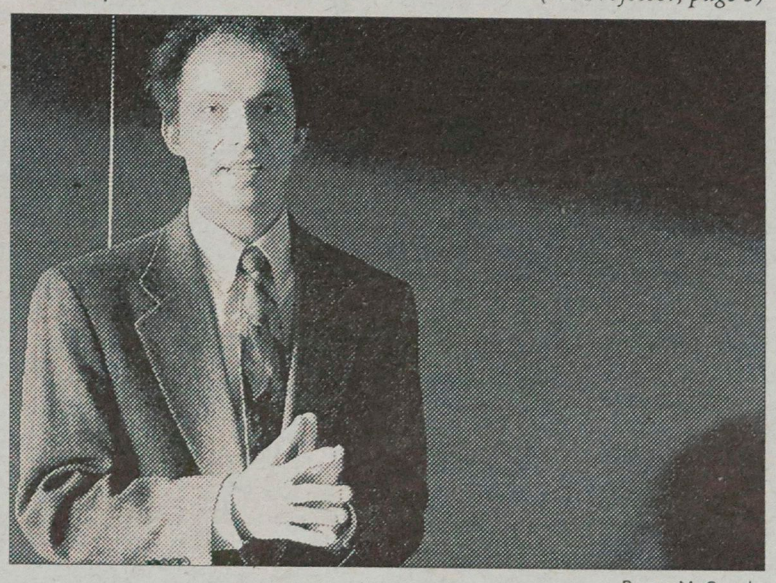
"He obviously loves the subject," remarked Russell Zager '04, who is currently enrolled in Scharstein's Computer Systems and Assembly Language class.

Scharstein is originally from a town near Stuttgart, Germany. While studying at the Universität Karlsruhe, he applied to study abroad in the United States and was accepted at Cornell University, where he began studying in 1990.

Although initially enrolled only for a year, he decided to stay at the University where he met and married Associate Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science Amy Briggs. She was three years ahead of him when she accepted a position at Middlebury College. Scharstein decided to move with her to Middlebury, where, in an office space next to Briggs', he finished his Ph.D. work.

Used to large impersonal Ger-

(see Professor, page 3)



Bryan McQuade

Assistant Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science Daniel Scharstein received the Perkins Award at a ceremony on Monday afternoon.

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COLLEGE shorts

By Andrea Gissing
Staff Writer

U. New Hampshire Student Sued for Using a Fake ID

After a recent settlement between a Durham, N.H,. storeowner and a University of New Hampshire student, New Hampshire alcohol sellers are now able to file suit against underage customers using fake identification to buy alcoholic beverages.

The student, who was cited by the New Hampshire Liquor Commission for alcohol possession, was caught using his older brother's valid driver's license after successfully buying alcohol from a local market. The owner of the store, Chuck Cressy, sued the student after he himself was fined $250 for selling alcohol to a minor.

This settlement provoked widespread responses from businesses that sell alcohol and could handle customers with fake IDs. Jack Stinson of Stinson's Village Store in Hanover, N.H., said that he would take "full legal advantage of the new precedent," and that minors who knowingly misrepresent themselves are as guilty as those who sell alcohol to them. Storeowners in New Hampshire have taken numerous preventative measures against underage buyers, including ID scanners, employee training and posted notices.

For businesses, this settlement gives the owners recourse against the customer who puts the store at risk. If caught selling alcohol to a minor, a store faces fines ranging from $100 to $500 and, more importantly, the loss of their liquor license for one to 10 days.

Source: *The Dartmouth*

Norwich U. Eliminates Secret Societies

The recent discovery of the Left Out Society (LOS), an unauthorized secret society, prompted administrators at Norwich University in Norwich, Vt. to expel and discipline students who were members. The school, where no fraternities or sororities exist, prohibits the existence of such groups, likely because of the strong presence of a military training program, the Corps of Cadets, on campus. This has been the case since 1999, when University President Richard Schneider prohibited any secret society or similar organization from existing on campus.

LOS was discovered over the December break when, during routine dorm inspections, officials found stolen school property in students' rooms. Since the discovery, three students withdrew from Norwich University, three were expelled and 11 more were disciplined on campus.

Further investigations are being conducted with evidence that was turned over to local police.

Source: *The Dartmouth*

Harvard to Give College Credit Only to Top AP Marks

Harvard University will no longer give college credit to freshmen who score lower than a five on advanced placement examinations. While most colleges award credit for scores of three, four or five on the tests administered by the College Board, many selective schools are debating over limits on credits for the scores. Harvard is the first to require scores of five for advanced standing.

This decision was based in part on studies showing that second-year economics and chemistry students who scored a four on the AP exam and had no previous Harvard courses in the subject did noticeably worse than students who scored a five, and worse than the class in general.

Some schools are concerned by the fact that students who score well on AP tests may be unprepared for high-level college work. While representatives of the College Board say, "those who scored well on the tests were ready for advanced courses," professors at universities disagree, arguing that while the students may be prepared for the AP tests, it does not necessarily mean they know how to use the information at a college level.

Source: *The New York Times*

NYU Denied Reimbursement for Sept. 11 Expenses

New York University (NYU) was recently told that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) would not reimburse any of the $25 million that the university spent as a result of the World Trade Center attacks.

NYU had requested FEMA to reimburse it for $5 million spent housing students displaced from downtown dormitories and supplying rescue workers, as well as another $3.5 million to pay for the cost of repairing buildings damaged in the attack.

FEMA's reason for denying the university the funds is because NYU is a private, nonprofit institution, which is not considered a "critical" entity. Critical entities include hospitals and utilities.

NYU has filed an insurance claim to cover the Sept. 11 costs and FEMA, in most cases, only reimburses costs not covered by insurance.

Source: UwireToday.com

College Evaluates Role of Black Studies

(continued from page 1)
proach to instruction.

In this shift from the activist to the scholar lie the seeds of the current debate. Widespread recognition of black studies as a formal discipline has paid off, with universities like Harvard now offering some 43 courses taught by 11 professors, according to the article. But some fear that, as the field grows more diffuse academically, it may lose its grounding in the activist roots that originally defined it.

Associate Professor of History William Hart offered a broad definition of black studies, describing it as "an interdisciplinary program that examines African-American life, culture, history [and] literature."

The Middlebury Interpretation

"The event at Harvard is revealing, it's troubling and it's puzzling in that it seems to suggest that it really does break into two camps," commented Associate Professor of History William Hart. "One asking, 'What is African-American studies really all about?' and the other one saying, 'Don't worry what it's about. We'll make it what we want it to be.'"

Hart offered a broad definition of black studies, describing it as "an interdisciplinary program that examines African-American life, culture, life-ways, history, literature — you name it. It's all of the above."

Hart conceded that Summers' comments had "touched a nerve" not only at Harvard but among black studies scholars across the nation. "I see this as a squabble between Summers and West and not between Harvard and African-American studies or African-American studies within the academy," he said.

Jim Ralph, who is also an associate professor of history, went to Harvard for graduate school and studied under Nathan Huggins, the director of African-American studies at the Harvard University for most of the 1980s.

"I find it striking that, a decade later, the president is wondering if the people connected to it [black studies] are as committed to scholarship as they are to public presentation," he commented.

"The Harvard of the 1990s is a very diverse school," Ralph said, citing the number of black studies scholars the University has hired since the 1980s. "Harvard has become a first-choice school for a lot of African-American students. What this shows is that you can have a strong program [that will] have an effect on the changing admissions profile of Harvard [at the undergraduate level]."

What are our aspirations [for the black studies minor]? We certainly want to strengthen the minor [and] would like to see more offerings in a variety of fields.

—James Ralph, associate professor of history

The Middlebury Connection

Hart speculated that "it was too early to tell" what the Harvard debate meant for a smaller college like Middlebury, but admitted that it would most likely have only a minimal effect.

Both he and Ralph played key roles in establishing the African-American Studies minor program at Middlebury in 1999. The professors manage the minor program along with Professor of Sociology and Anthropology Ellen Oxfeld and Assistant Professor of American Literature and Civilization William Nash. Students that elect to pursue the minor must take a total of four courses from disciplines that include history and sociology and complete either a "relevant 400-level course or an independent 500-level project," the College course catalog stipulates.

Ralph, who graduated from Middlebury in 1982, explained that when he was a student the College offered a course in black history taught by Thomas Cox, with an additional course in black literature emerging in the 1980s.

"What are our aspirations [for the minor]? We certainly want to strengthen the minor; we certainly would like to see more offerings in a variety of fields," Ralph said.

Possibilities do exist for transforming the minor into a major program, but, as Ralph conceded, "I don't know what to say about the future. It would require substantial resources."

The Future

Such aspirations could coincide with the College's commitment to diversity, formalized in October of 2000 with the creation of the Office for Institutional Diversity. The Office is headed by Associate Provost for Institutional Diversity and Associate Professor of German Roman Graf who, since assuming his position, has made strides to enhance Middlebury's incorporation of diversity — in its numerous socioeconomic, racial and sexual orientation manifestations — into its operating, admissions and instruction practices.

"These guys are major players [in the black studies field]," Graf said of Hart and Ralph, "and are really well known outside of Middlebury."

"I think this is a good time, because we do have the Office for Institutional Diversity, because the College has made a commitment to diversify the student body, the staff and the curriculum," Hart explained. While no specific plans as of yet exist for expanding the African American Studies minor, initiatives that fall under Graf's supervision — such as implementing an expanded Cultures and Civilizations requirement, beginning with the Class of 2007 — will undoubtedly complement any efforts in this direction.

Post-Carnivalism

Louisa Conrad

After the festivities of the Winter Carnival weekend came to a close, *students emptied their rooms of excess trash.*

Language Houses to Move to Central Campus

(continued from page 1)

Simon Isaacs '03.

Mariah McKechnie '01, residential systems coordinator, echoed similar sentiments, reminding students that the houses now opened up for senior block draw by the language houses' departures also offer highly appealing options for seniors. "Some people may not necessarily think it is a fair trade, but it's not bad," McKechnie said. "The administration has made a commitment to academic interest houses and finding the best possible housing is part of that commitment," she continued.

The new flexibility will allow [language] houses to change locations based on their ability to fill their rooms.

The moves of the three language houses were made possible by a proposal written by Associate Provost Tim Spears and McKechnie and then amended by O'Connor and Professor of Italian Patricia Zupan.

The proposal was written as a solution to conflicts that have arisen in the past between the language houses and the Commons Administration Office when a language house was unable to fill its beds and the Commons Administration Office was forced to place a student in the house who was not proficient in the language.

The proposed solution involves a bi-annual evaluation process designed to match language houses with housing that matches their needs. The language houses will be assessed to determine if each house's location satisfies its demand. The new flexibility will allow houses to change locations based on their ability to fill their rooms.

The language houses still hope to be able to maintain a consistent location, O'Connor said. "Language houses should be known not just as abstract concepts, but as identifiable and continuing locations on campus," she commented.

The Italian House hopes to have found such a location in Longwell. "This seems about right for us," Castronuovo said. "This seems like something we can maintain."

Foggy Beach

Bryan McQuade

Late on Friday afternoon, *fog hovered in the Middlebury valley as students waded through puddles on their way to and from Winter Carnival events.*

Professor Invests Personal Interest in Student Success

(continued from page 1)

man universities, Scharstein did not become interested in teaching until he saw Briggs working at this small liberal arts college. Working for three years at her side, "I got excited about watching her teach at Middlebury," he said. When a faculty position opened up, he applied for it and was accepted.

Scharstein's area of interest lies in computer vision, especially stereo-vision and image-based rendering. Some of his past work includes "view synthesis using stereo vision," "comparative study of stereo visual algorithms" and "mobile robot navigation using self-similar visual landmarks."

Scharstein is a professor passionate about teaching and about computer science. He is well liked by students such as Grayson Stuntz '02, who was enrolled in his class Data Structures and Program Design. "He is very accommodating to students outside of class," said Stuntz, who commended Scharstein for his ability to assess what kind of help his students require. "I like his pace," Stuntz continued.

The Perkins Award rotates annually between the mathematics and computer science faculty and the lab science faculty and is strictly based upon the student evaluations. Each department's Student Advisory Committee (SAC), consisting of at least one junior major and one senior major, must submit letters of recommendation for the award, all of which are strictly based upon the student evaluations of the teacher.

"This process is what drives the nomination process," commented James Larrabee, associate dean of the faculty and professor of chemistry. Larrabee and a senior member of the faculty then review the letters and select the recipient.

SGA Emergency Meeting to Address Room Draw

By Anne Jennings
Staff Writer

At an emergency Student Government Association (SGA) meeting scheduled for 4:15 p.m. today, Residential Systems Coordinator Mariah McKechnie '01 will present several scenarios of how block housing may be distributed among the commons.

The SGA will pick one of these scenarios to be instituted for this year's room draw.

The scenarios were presented to the commons' deans this morning for consideration and approval.

Also still undecided is how junior counselors (JCs) benefit in this year's room draw. They will either receive more than one random number to be used in block and open draws, or will receive a priority number for use only in open draw.

After speaking with a JC, McKechnie said, the student commented that "either plan sounds fine."

She was "pleasantly surprised" by the ease with which the new plan has been accepted by the student body.

She said she had received "pretty much all positive feedback on this plan" after an article outlining the plan was printed in the Feb. 20 edition of *The Middlebury Campus.*

Commons informational meetings about the new room draw system have been rescheduled for March 14. The room draw Web site should be updated and ready this Friday.

Balancing Act

Bryan McQuade

Traversing the roof of LaForce Hall, *a workman begins to put finishing touches on the new dormitory building. The Ross Commons addition is scheduled to open in the fall of this year.*

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The Tower of Babel: An In-Depth Look at Language Study at Middlebury

College Shifts Focus Away from Language Reputation

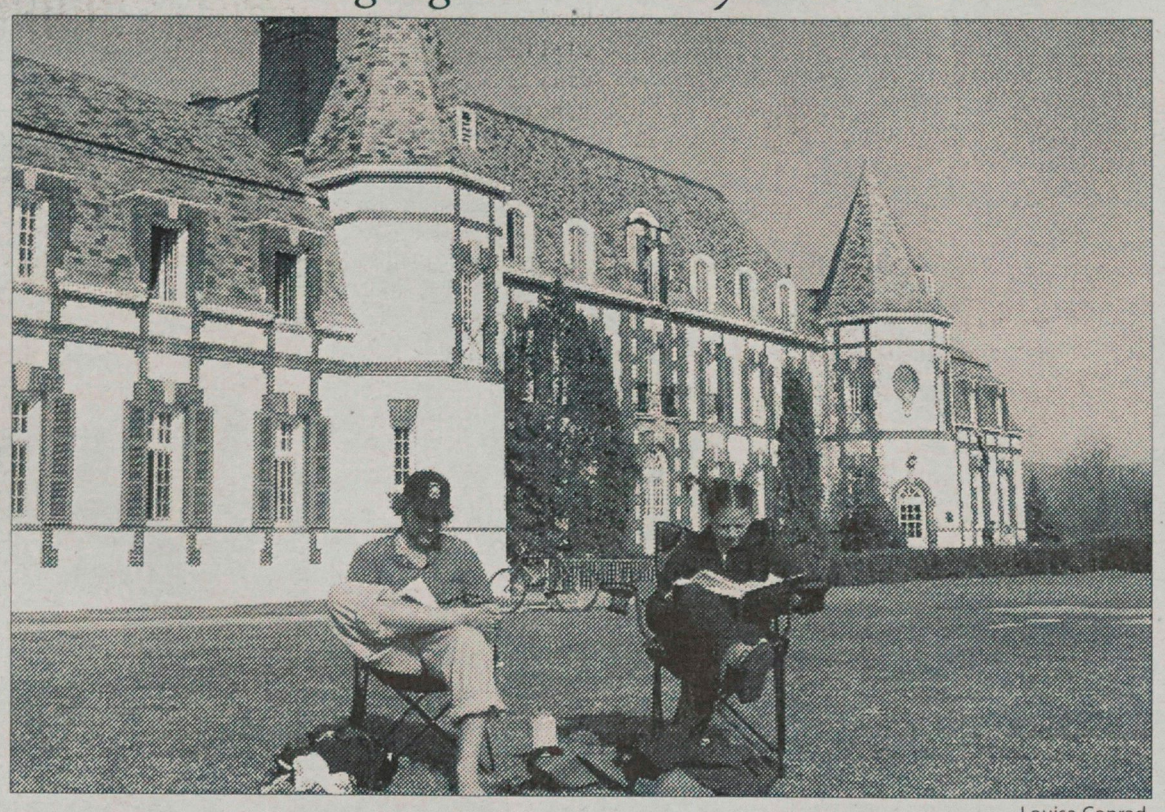
Viewbook, Bicentennial Video Highlight Middlebury's New Initiatives

By Claire Bourne
News Editor

Over the past century, Middlebury College has established itself as "the gold standard" in foreign language education, according to Associate Dean of the Faculty and German Professor Michael Geisler. Though an unlikely reputation for a rural college tucked away in the Green Mountains of Vermont, Middlebury's name is synonymous with excellence in language instruction.

As the College moves into its third century, however, the perception of Middlebury as a "language school" hangs in the balance. While the standard of the academic-year program is not declining, the emphasis placed on language study by the administration and in publications such as the institution's Viewbook seems to be today decidedly less than it was a decade ago.

Since President John McCardell announced the College's "Peaks of Excellence" to the Board of Trustees in the fall of 1994, the institution has striven to portray itself as a well-balanced liberal arts college. McCardell described "cutting edge leadership in language study and pedagogy" as the first "Peak" of a list of five, which also included "global understanding that radiates from a core linguistic and cultural competency," an "environmentally aware campus," "the preeminent program in literary study" and, finally, the opportunity for students "to apply what they learn about the liberal arts to real world situations." Since 1994, the Commons initiative has been added as the sixth "Peak."



Louisa Conrad

Though no longer a French-speaking dormitory, Le Chateau is a significant stop for College tours.

Many, like Associate Professor of Chinese Thomas Moran, are left wondering whether the College's decision to focus attention towards such disciplines as environmental studies, international studies and the natural sciences comes at the expense of Middlebury's traditionally conspicuous strength — its languages. "I do think that Middlebury continues to measure up very well to its peer institutions when it comes to language programs," said Moran. "Let's hope our designation as 'Peak' helps us maintain this edge. We'll see."

According to Roman Graf, associate provost for institutional diversity and associate professor of German, Middlebury's reputation for language education "is derived from the inextricable combination of summer schools and Middlebury's [academic year] language departments."

Marketing and Communications Director for the Language Schools and Schools Abroad Robert Keren said that Middlebury's name is its "single most important marketing tool" for the College's summer schools and overseas programs. He added, "If someone takes language study seriously, they have an intuitive sense that Middlebury is the place for further language study." The summer Language School's "No English Spoken Here" slogan, for example, is well known among foreign language teachers around the country.

As for the C.V. Starr Middlebury Schools Abroad, Michael Katz, dean of the Language Schools and Schools Abroad, said that Middlebury's reputation in this domain "continues to grow." The College announced its acquisition of two sites in South America and is currently investigating establishing a school in China. "Middlebury is not resting on its laurels," explained Katz. "We want to remain at the forefront [of language education]."

In light of the success of the summer and abroad programs, Graf said, "The language departments during the year are underrated. The people in our language departments are among the best in their fields."

The College's 2001-2002 Viewbook, while highlighting Middlebury's commitment to the environment, its new state-of-the-art science facility, its cultural diversity and its athletic offerings, fails to feature Middlebury's language faculty or to visually depict language study in any form. The publication contains eight images of Panther sports, 12 arts-related photos and five pictures of the sciences.

Professor of Italian Patricia Zupan, who has been at Middlebury for 20 years, said in the past few years she has "honestly observed a rather extreme and unexpected diminishment of the languages in the College's publicity." While she does "not argue with the College's choice to give a balanced view" of its academic and extracurricular offerings, she affirmed that she "takes issue with the extreme form this exclusion seems to have taken" and that she does "not see the point of the apparent suppression of this historical strength."

Graf acknowledged the Viewbook's inattention to languages as an "oversight," but said that language study still maintained a strong presence at Middlebury.

(see New, page 8)

Multilinguists Converse Beyond Borders

By Nicha Rakpanichmanee
News Editor

LaKesha Lindsay '96 came to Middlebury College to study Russian and is now a self-employed jewelry designer in Louisville, Ky.

"I was my major from Day One," said Lindsay. She noted that she wanted to study Russian as early as 13 years old, when she read about the country's "grandeur and opulence" in Ronald Massie's book "Nicholas and Alexandria."

After five months in Greece, he liked it so much that he was baptized Greek Orthodox before returning to Middlebury to change his major.

Lindsay's artistic passion developed almost simultaneously, when as a 13-year-old, she happened upon a book of imperial eggs designed by Carl Faberge, court jeweler to two Russian tsars.

"I knew at that moment that I wanted to be a great jeweler and the best-spoken Russian," she recalled.

Lindsay studied Russian extensively in high school and then started from scratch at Middlebury to ensure a solid background. She studied abroad in Kyrgyzstan for a year and, during her second semester, learned metalsmithing and stone cutting from a private jewelry house. After graduation, she interned for a non-governmental organization for nine months each in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.

In the end, however, Lindsay chose to set up a studio with two young jewelers and began her own business. Her established clients are in the Midwest and the South. Lindsay's opportunities to use Russian are limited to letters to her best friend and conversations with her companion — the ones that touch on Russian concepts and the ones that need to be private in a public setting.

Like Lindsay, many Middlebury students have drawn inventive links between their language skills and personal interests. In such fields as art, teaching, politics and business management, fluency in at least one foreign language has carried Middlebury students across geographical and cultural boundaries.

I knew at that moment that I wanted to be a great jeweler and the best-spoken Russian.

— LaKesha Lindsay '96

According to Angel Diaz '93, he made a cross-cultural transition even before he mastered Arabic. Having studied Italian, French and Spanish in high school, Diaz asked his Italian teacher where "the best college for foreign languages [was], and she said Middlebury."

"I didn't even know where Vermont was on the map," Diaz admitted. "You have to remember, I'm a Hispanic kid from Miami, from the heart of Little Havana, who learned English in school and spoke Spanish at home and everywhere else."

Diaz's transition from the Florida coast to New England was not a smooth one, he recalled. He remembered that he "hated" living in "freezing cold Vermont in a tiny town." A double Italian-Spanish major, Diaz said he stopped attending most his classes, including Spanish, by the end of his sophomore year. Diaz decided to withdraw in early 1992 and left for Middlebury's semester abroad program in Greece.

"My experience in Greece helped me to understand that more than a student of language, I enjoyed learning about the culture, the people and cultural nuances and dynamics," said Diaz. After five months in Greece, he "liked it so much that [he] was baptized Greek Orthodox" before returning to Middlebury to change his major to sociology/anthropology.

Despite his fascination with foreign cultures, Diaz admitted to one former "prejudice."

"Because of the Gulf War, and be-

(see Graduates, page 9)

Departments Grapple With Declining Enrollment

By Devin Zatorski
Associate Editor

The collapse of the Soviet Union visibly dented Russian language enrollment at Middlebury College, touching off a decade-long downturn that sliced introductory class sizes from 40 per semester at the dawn of the decade to a mere 15 this spring. While Professor of Russian Tom Beyer contended that Russian suffered the most dramatic decline, the downward trend, guided by international political and economic factors, extends to the College's German and Japanese departments.

"We've had our time selling German over the past 10 years because of the fall of the Berlin Wall," admitted Assistant Professor of German Bettina Matthias. "Right after that, students asked, 'Why study German?'" The Modern Language Association's enrollment data confirm the effects of the students' skepticism, showing a 27.8 percent decline in German language study nationwide from 1990 to 1995.

Meanwhile, Professor of Japanese Nuobo Ogawa said that the College's Japanese Department enrollments rose steadily in the late 1980s and early 1990s as Japan's economy gained prominence, but later fell as the current 12-year-old recession set in.

As the three College departments confront declining enrollments, faculty members speculate on when interest might resurge, while devising strategies to promote their languages.

Beyer, for one, reflected on the 1960s, when "idealism" motivated many students to study Russian.

"[Russian students] were convinced that the confrontation between our two nations was a real possibility if not inevitable, but we were equally convinced that people of good will and common sense on both sides, if they could just find a common language, could avert the potential catastrophe of nuclear war," he remarked.

But since the Soviet Union's collapse in 1991, he said "economics has proven not as strong a motivation as idealism" to study Russian. Beyer also cited the media's portrayal of Russia as a "dangerous place lacking the rule of law [and] where foreigners were subjected to attacks and petty street crime" as a factor dissuading students from studying Russian. "This image clearly could not appeal to a younger generation and certainly must have had some parents suggesting that students study another language," he said.

These influences, playing out far beyond the confines of Middlebury's campus, sent Russian enrollments down to 97 this semester from 159 in the spring of 1989.

Beyer said that "our enrollments have mirrored the national decline in interest in Russian" since the collapse of the Soviet Union, referring to a nationwide dip of 44.6 percent from 1990 to 1995, compared with an 86 percent surge in enrollments from 1980 to 1990. Recently, however, Beyer has noticed that the decline has "plateaued out."

He noted a "renewed interest in all things Russian," signaled by stronger enrollment in first and second year Russian classes and the popularity of a Russian literature course in translation.

In addition to Russia's anticipated role as "a major player in world affairs in the 21st century," Beyer said the rekindled interest reflects Russian's emergence as the "lingua franca among Russia, many of the former Soviet Republics and Eastern Europe."

This year, in an effort to increase enrollment, the department offered the option of starting Russian language study in Winter Term, attracting an additional eight students. Historically, the Winter Term class has served as the required bridge between the fall and spring semester Beginning Russian classes.

According to Matthias, the German Department saw a one-seventh drop in Beginning German enrollment this year, which she attributed to the French Department's decision to offer introductory French in the fall.

But even before this year, "we have talked extensively about a strategy for turning around declining enrollment," Matthias said. At the forefront of the department's plan is a proposal to "completely restructure the required German Winter Term class," perhaps by incorporating a 10-day trip to Berlin to supplement two weeks of inten-

(see Faculty, page 9)

Leisure Language

Alex Watson

Browsing the periodicals in Starr Library, *Damon Gacicia '02 applies his language skills to read an Italian poetry journal.*

College Handles Spanish Program Growth

By Deborah Jones
Opinions Editor

Recent years have seen the explosion of the Hispanic population in the United States and with it, a surge in people looking to learn Spanish as a second language. Knowledge of Spanish, once considered a desirable but optional skill, has become practically a necessity in certain parts of the country, prompting students to study it in increasing numbers. This trend is true at Middlebury College, where the Spanish language department has seen substantial and continuous growth in the past decade.

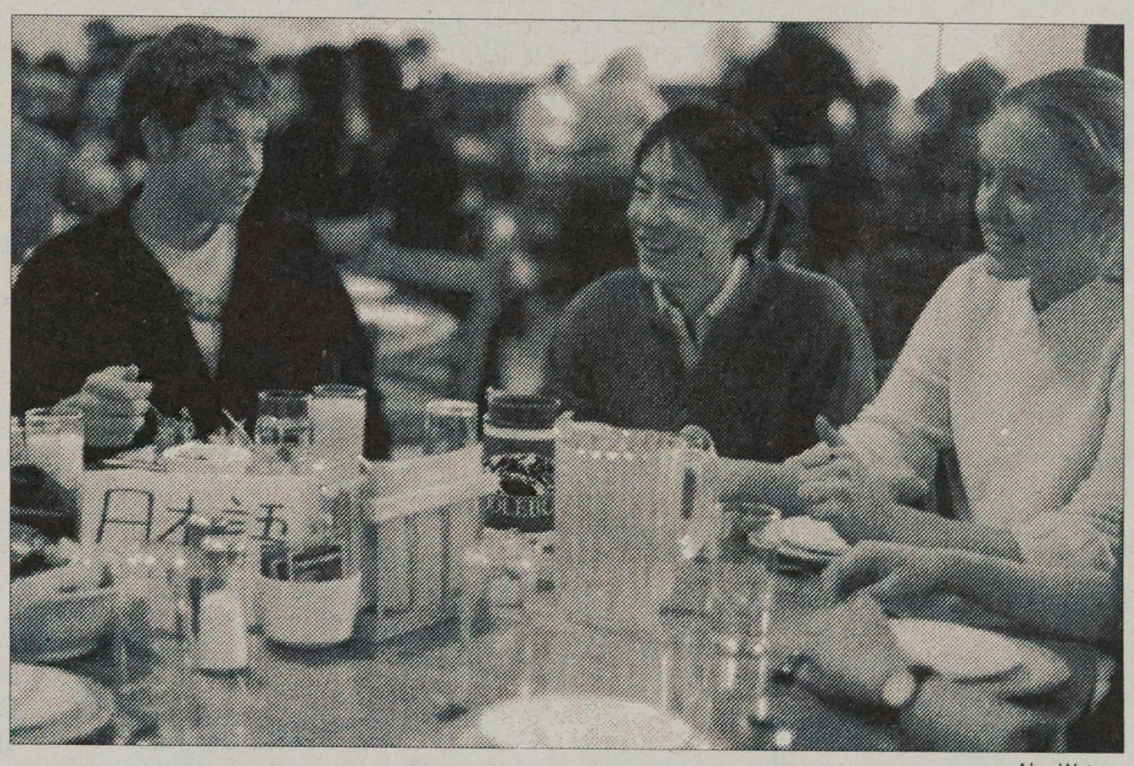
"Ten or 15 years ago, there were just four Spanish professors," said Department Chair Roberto Veguez. Today, there are 10. This semester, they will teach a total of 22 classes that run the gamut from basic grammatical structure to sophisticated analyses of literature. Each section is capped at 18 students, up from 15 in the late 1990s. Associate Professor of Spanish Donna Rogers noted that the department hopes to return to the 15 student ceiling in its 100 level classes in the coming school year.

Despite the rising number of students taking Spanish, Veguez does not consider the faculty to be strained. He explained that handling the growth has primarily been a matter of re-allocating resources. For example, most Spanish students at Middlebury begin their undergraduate studies with at least a basic knowledge of the language from their high school programs. The majority of those pupils place into 200 level classes, and as a result, the department offers multiple sections of and added support to these intermediate courses.

The faculty has also had to re-evaluate its senior seminar offerings in recent years. Rogers said that because Spanish is such a widely spoken language, there is a lot of pressure to offer courses that cover many geographic areas, each with their respective literary traditions and histories. This has the potential to become a daunting task when one considers that students required to take an ad-

(see Spanish, page 8)

Lunch Break



Alex Watson

Adhering to the language pledge, *students of Japanese converse at the language tables held daily in Le Chateau dining room.*

"On the Record..."

My decision to study Russian was made in high school, when the Berlin Wall fell and the Soviet Union came apart. It seemed like all of the history that was being made at the time was happening in East Europe, and I wanted to go over there and check it out.

—Colin Guard '97, Internet Access and Training Programmer in Ukraine

It's preposterous to think that anything in the German character causes people to hate Jews. I'm going to have to prove people wrong.

—David Bernay '04, German major

Try to find a translation of major texts of foreign literature (except for books by Nobel Prize Winners or Oprah's picks). Try to find a foreign film in a regular movie theater. That is where the real problem is, and, compared to that, Middlebury, with its strong cadre of international students, its interdisciplinary programs, many of which are international in scope, with the Center for International Affairs and the strong student interest in foreign languages and study abroad is actually almost an anomaly, a haven of cosmopolitan sentiment and intercultural awareness, in the middle of the Green Mountains in a small state that many people in other countries have barely heard of.

—Michael Geisler, professor of German and associate dean of the faculty

Beyond our publications, it is my feeling that areas like international studies, environmental studies and the sciences are getting more attention than the languages. The language departments are well supported in terms of departmental budgets, but one only need compare offices, staff support, language classrooms, administrative structure, cocurricular venues, etc., to get a sense of the differences.

—Edward Knox, professor of French and director of the Center for International Affairs

I have the distinct sense that most students at Middlebury wish to avoid a monolingual environment as being restrictive, narrowing and educationally unstable.

—Kamakshi Murti, professor of German

Personally, Japan is my only home and I know that with the language ability I will have at least some degree of a better chance to return. I think that is one of the biggest reasons why I have stayed motivated and interested in the material.

—Ryan Kearney '04

Prospective parents and students always seem to be very interested in [Middlebury's language] program, and I think it's definitely a huge selling point on the tour.

—Brian Ferry '02, Admissions Office tour guide

Middlebury Expands Study Abroad Horizons

By Tim McCahill
Managing Editor

In light of recent efforts to create new language programs in China and Latin America, it appears that Middlebury College expansion is not exclusively limited to the confines of its Vermont campus.

The past four years have been somewhat of a watershed era for development of the College's schools abroad, and the prospects for an increased Middlebury presence in both Latin America and China seem — for the moment, at least — quite positive.

College on a Lake? The China Initiative

Dean of Language Schools and Schools Abroad Michael Katz, along with Associate Professor of Chinese Thomas Moran and Director of the Chinese Summer Language School Richard Chi of Princeton University, traveled over February break to the Chinese coastal city of Hangzhou. The visit was the most recent in a series of explorations to find a suitable location for a Middlebury Chinese language program in China, a voyage that began in March 2000.

"We went to re-visit three institutions in the city of Hangzhou where a larger group of Middlebury faculty and administrators had been in March 2000," Katz explained. "At that point we were looking at several cities and several institutions within each of those cities — and we had not eliminated other cities."

Between that visit and the February trip a process of selection and elimination took place within the Chinese department and a host of other related offices, including summer administrators and Katz's office. The result was a gradual narrowing down to one city, Hangzhou, and three separate institutions within that city.

"[We] went to re-visit those three schools and meet with higher-level administrators in those schools and to talk turkey," Katz said. "The visits were very interesting, and right now we're bringing the results of those meetings back for discussion within the department and what is now called the Faculty Advisory Board for the School in China [a formal consolidation of Middlebury groups that had visited China and other interested faculty parties]."

Creating a new language school is not necessarily an easy process, and Katz explained that in this particular instance these initial discussions would by necessity beget more conversations inside and outside the College. The ball is rolling, however, and Katz mentioned that more deliberations still need to occur in the Chinese department, the Faculty Advisory Board and the Academic Affairs Committee before a final choice can be made on which Hangzhou institution the College should affiliate itself with.

"[At that point] we would pursue it with proposals, cost estimates, timetables — we're still a ways away," Katz admitted. "We could conceivably have students in the fall of 2003 if everything went according to my plan. This is not a change we make lightly. I'm cautiously optimistic."

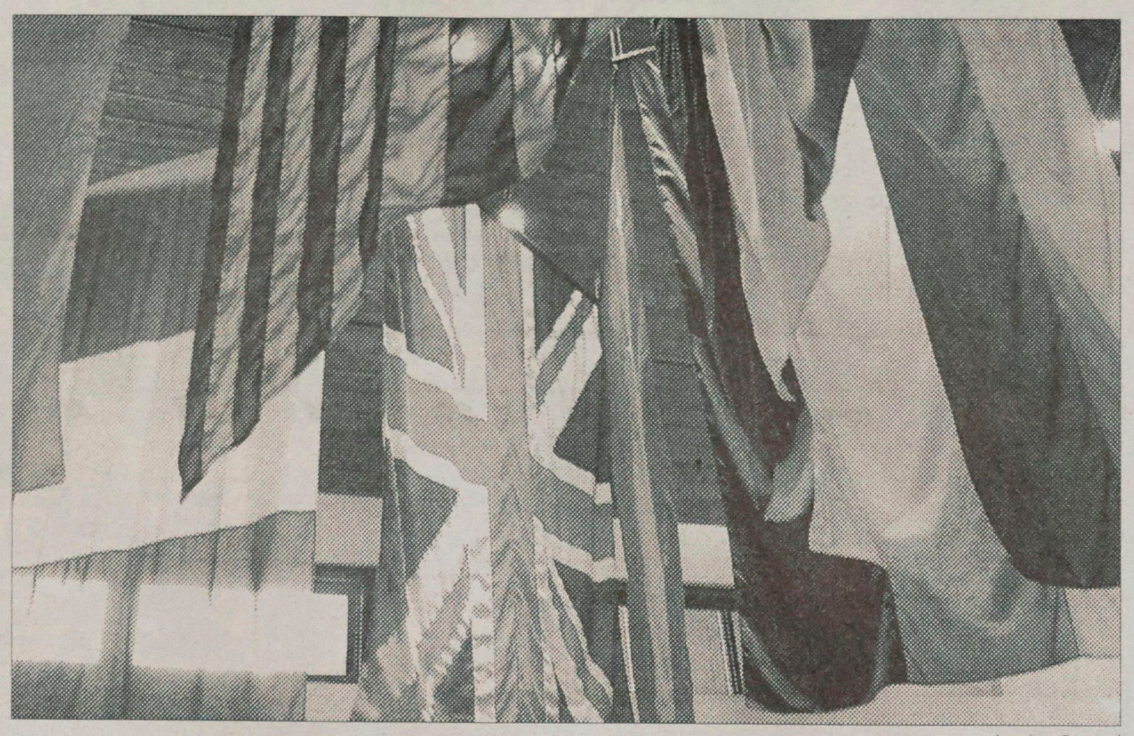
While both the Chinese department and the College have had ambitions to create a program in the country since the 1980s, obstacles can sometimes be formidable. Some of these revolve around how independent Middlebury's program can be within the larger institutional framework of the host university, both in terms of hiring practices and the kinds of textbooks educators use.

"We thought we would be able to achieve our aims in a smaller city, where there would be less control from the center," Katz continued.

Moran, who has been involved in deliberations since March 2000, voiced similar sentiments. "They're a lot of things in

(see Schools, page 8)

A Banner Reputation



Louisa Conrad

Hanging from the ceiling of Freeman International Center, *world flags represent the diverse beliefs and cultures of Middlebury's student body.*

Portuguese Joins Summer Program as 9th School

By Paul Barnwell
Staff Writer

Middlebury College recently announced the addition a Portuguese summer language school, slated to open in June, 2003. The decision, approved by the Board of Trustees in December 2001, also includes a plan to offer classes in introductory Portuguese during the 2002-2003 academic school year with hopes of study abroad opportunities for Middlebury students in Brazil or Portugal beginning in 2003.

The Portuguese School, with an enrollment goal of 30 students, will become the first new summer program since the introduction of the Arabic School in 1982. The University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth is currently the only U.S. institution to offer a comprehensive summer program in Portuguese.

Middlebury began researching the potential for a new program a few years ago, said Robert Keren, marketing and communications director of the Language Schools and Schools Abroad.

"It started back in 1998-1999. The language schools, under the directorship of Dean of the Language Schools and Schools Abroad Michael Katz, launched a strategic planning process in which we took a look at the long history of the language schools," Keren commented. "We realized the need for language study in the United States changes and grows over time."

The study narrowed the choice down to four languages: Hebrew, Hindi, Korean and Portuguese. According to data from the Modern Language Association, 200 million people speak Portuguese worldwide and 150 programs exist at U.S. institutions of higher learning. Selecting Portuguese over the other languages was an easy decision, according to Katz.

> **We realized the need for language study in the United States changes and grows over time.**
> **—Robert Keren, marketing director of Language Schools and Schools Abroad**

"Portuguese just seemed to be the up and coming language," he explained. "We also think there are enough students interested in Latin America who already know Spanish who would want to come here and learn Portuguese, aside from the fact that it is a beautiful language with wonderful culture and literature."

Katz noted key reasons for omitting the other languages. Hindi has a large number of speakers, he said, but English is still the official language of India. Korean is growing in popularity, but the surge is mainly on the West Coast. Hebrew is still divided between biblical Hebrew and the Modern Hebrew spoken in Israel so "we didn't know how to straddle that," Katz said.

While support is widespread for the summer program, some faculty members are not sold on the creation of the Portuguese mini-department for the academic school year. The Portuguese offering will not be consistent with the broad academic scope of the other language programs because only one year of instruction will be available.

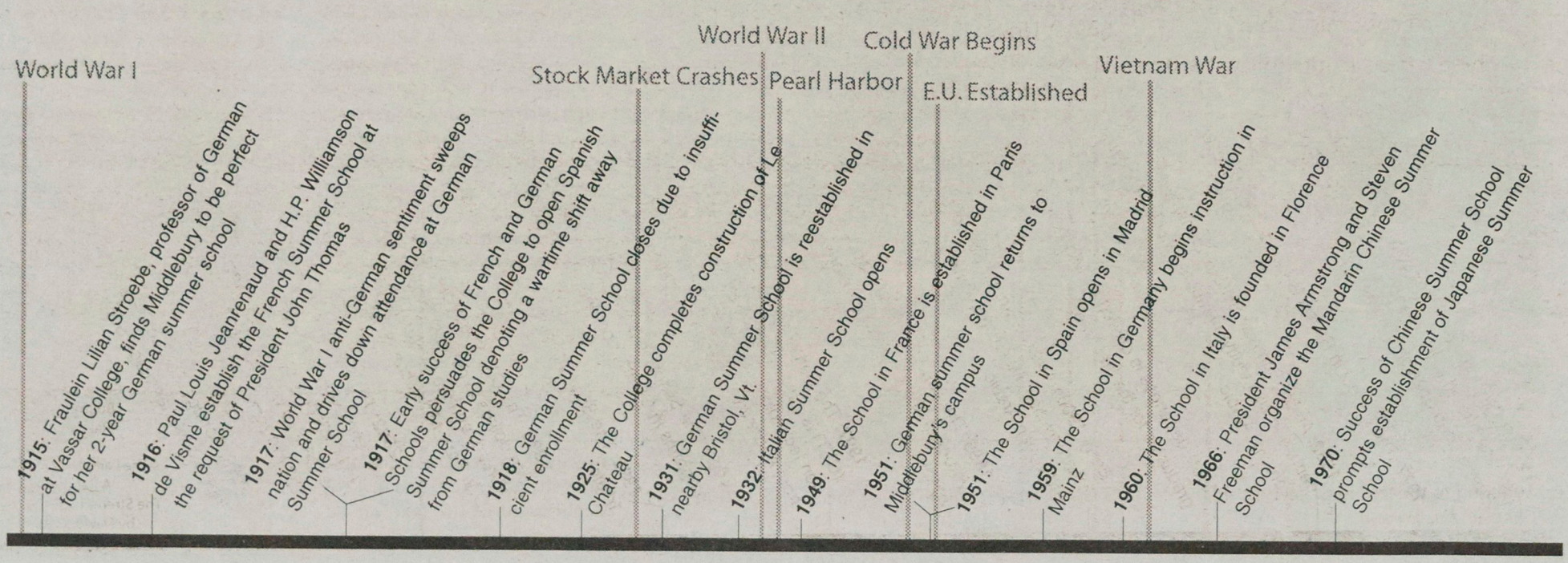
Nevertheless, two semesters of Portuguese will still enable Middlebury students interested in study abroad in Brazil or Portugal to become eligible by following up the academic year with a stint at the new summer school.

"It's a new way of doing language. I would say it doesn't have unanimous support," Katz said. "It has a number of people who support it and a number of people who are worried."

Dean of the Faculty Robert Schine expressed the general attitude of those who disagree with the instrumental approach of the new department. "If you're going to do it, do it right," he said. "Let's have Portuguese on all levels, including Portuguese literature. Here we have started a program that doesn't have the same goals as the other language programs."

Katz pointed out that Portuguese would not be the sole non-comprehensive language program offered at the College. "Hebrew is currently being taught in the Classics Department with only one year of organized classes," he said.

"It may turn out that this develops into something bigger. It may turn out that this is just right and serves students well, but that's something we'll see in two or three years," Schine said.


World War I
Stock Market Crashes
World War II
Pearl Harbor
Cold War Begins
E.U. Established
Vietnam War
1915: Fraulein Lilian Stroebe, professor of German at Vassar College, finds Middlebury to be perfect for her 2-year German summer school
1916: Paul Louis Jeanrenaud and H.P. Williamson de Visme establish the French Summer School at the request of President John Thomas
1917: World War I anti-German sentiment sweeps nation and drives down attendance at German Summer School
1917: Early success of French and German Schools persuades the College to open Spanish Summer School denoting a wartime shift away from German studies
1918: German Summer School closes due to insufficient enrollment
1925: The College completes construction of Le Chateau
1931: German Summer School is reestablished in nearby Bristol, Vt.
1932: Italian Summer School opens
1949: The School in France is established in Paris
1951: German summer school returns to Middlebury's campus
1951: The School in Spain opens in Madrid
1959: The School in Germany begins instruction in Mainz
1960: The School in Italy is founded in Florence
1966: President James Armstrong and Steven Freeman organize the Mandarin Chinese Summer School
1970: Success of Chinese Summer School prompts establishment of Japanese Summer School

Sept. 11 Boosts Interest in Arabic School

By Ashley Elpern
Editor-in-Chief

Middlebury College's Arabic Summer School, the most recent addition to the Language Schools, has seen a dramatic increase in interest since the events of Sept. 11, prompting Dean of Language Schools and Study Abroad Michael Katz and Nabil Abdelfattah, director of the Arabic School and assistant professor of Arabic at Western Michigan University, to expand enrollment for the summer of 2002.

At this time last year, the Arabic School, founded in 1982, had received 352 inquiries and 73 completed applications. This year, 632 inquiries have been reported as of Feb. 25, and the school has received 176 applications. So far, 49 students have been accepted, and 119 are under review, said Robert Keren, director of marketing and communication for the Language Schools and Schools Abroad.

Katz said that in August of 2001, the Arabic School decided to accept approximately 90 students for 2002. Following Sept. 11 and the flood of applications, Katz and Adbelfattah increased potential enrollment to 120 students. To accommodate this, Katz said that in addition to being housed in Hepburn Hall, Arabic students would live in one of the Ridgeline Woods homes.

Four more Arabic instructors must be selected and hired by Abdelfattah. "He assured me that he will be able to locate teachers," sad Katz. "All over the country, more Arabic will be taught and several teachers will be drawn away from us because their institutions need them stay on to teach for the summer."

Abdelfattah said that his main concern was to provide the most qualified instructors and best facilities for students. "We have to keep our name in tact and not compromise the resources we offer by increasing enrollment," he said.

Abdelfattah traveled to the Middle East to look for additional instructors. He noted that there were not as many qualified teachers of Arabic in the United States as there were for the other languages taught at the Language Schools. "It is not an easy task to find someone good and who will dedicate nine weeks to teach at Middlebury," he said.

He said that the events of Sept. 11 affected some potential foreign teaching candidates, as they feared travel and the political situation in the United States. Furthermore, he said that as interest in Arabic increases nationwide at institutions of higher learning, with schools like Columbia University and George Washington University adding Arabic summer schools for the first time, teachers are in more demand and due to travel constraints may be in fewer numbers.

Foreign instructors must apply for work visas, but Katz said that the Language School took the initiative early to make sure that all instructors would have clearance before classes start in June.

Katz said that Middlebury's Arabic School is the only program in the United States that offers full immersion. He credited the increased interest in part to the fact that many students who might have gone abroad to study Arabic have concerns about travel that will keep them in the country.

The Arabic School offers five levels of instruction. Keren said that 5 percent of students are Middlebury undergraduates, 40 percent are undergraduates from other universities, 35 percent are enrolled in other institutions' graduate programs and 20 percent are "non-traditional" students. He stressed that the latter group is given no priority in the rolling admissions process, and that they represent people from the business and financial sectors, as well as non-governmental organizations, other professionals and members government intelligence, including the FBI, CIA, National Security Agency and military intelligence.

"The number of applications from the FBI and naval intelligence is higher than I've ever seen," said Keren, "but we look at each application individually and are not anxious to change the character and traditional mix of students at the Language Schools."

Katz said that in the weeks following Sept. 11, the CIA called the Language School to inquire about locating translators of Arabic who had graduated from the school. "The faculty are made public, but we did not give out the names of any of our students," he said.

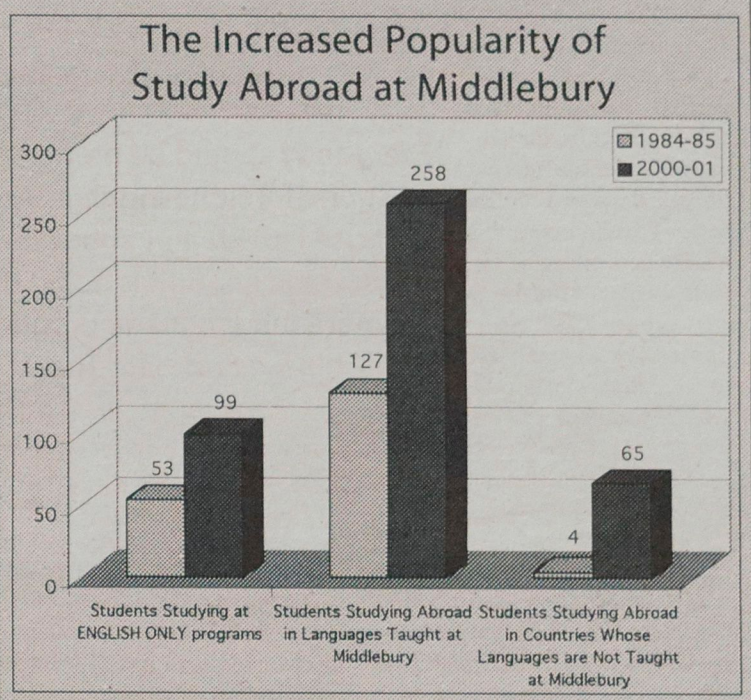
While Abdelfattah, said, "on a humane level, I wish [Sept. 11] had never happened. The increase in interest in Arabic is a positive thing, and I hope the incentive is to learn more about Arab culture, how the language works and to have more communication with native speakers."

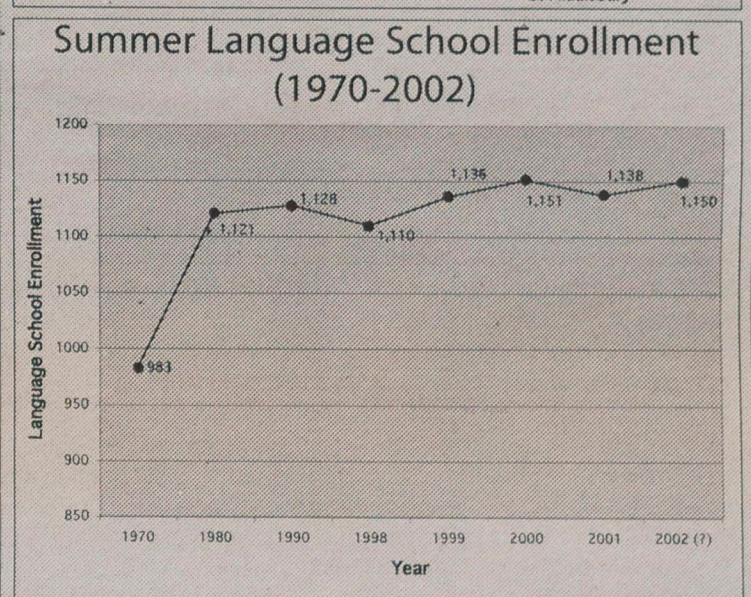
Along the Way

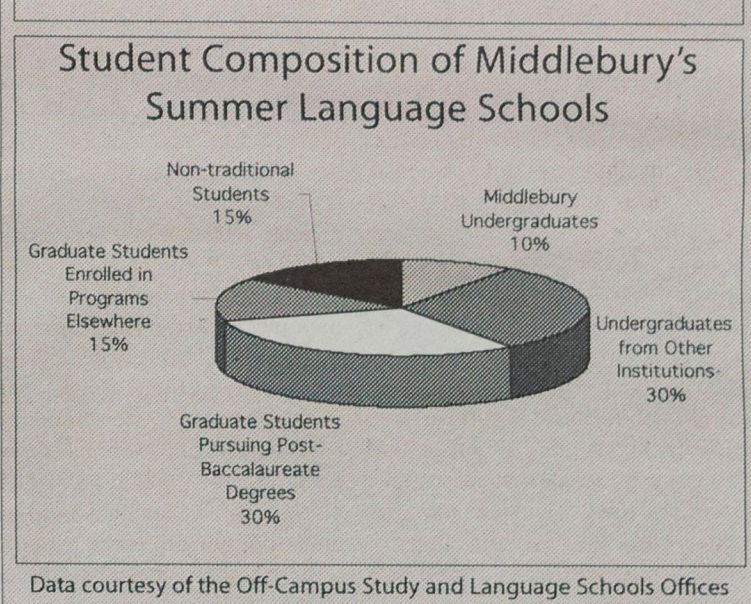
Louisa Conrad

Leading a tour, *a guide points out significant sites on campus. Sunderland and Le Chateau are two stops along the way.*

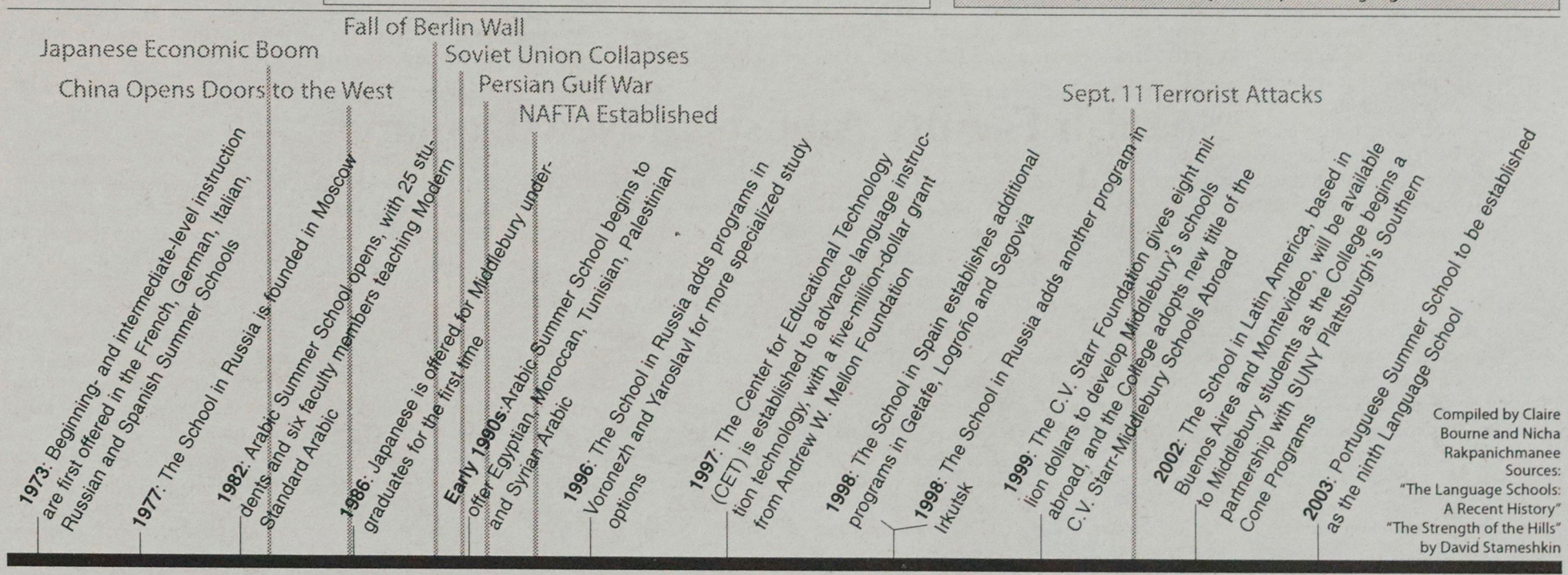
Tracing the Trends






Student Composition of Middlebury's Summer Language Schools
Non-traditional Students 15%
Middlebury Undergraduates 10%
Graduate Students Enrolled in Programs Elsewhere 15%
Undergraduates from Other Institutions 30%
Graduate Students Pursuing Post-Baccalaureate Degrees 30%

Data courtesy of the Off-Campus Study and Language Schools Offices


Japanese Economic Boom
China Opens Doors to the West
Fall of Berlin Wall
Soviet Union Collapses
Persian Gulf War
NAFTA Established
Sept. 11 Terrorist Attacks
1973: Beginning- and intermediate-level instruction are first offered in the French, German, Italian, Russian and Spanish Summer Schools
1977: The School in Russia is founded in Moscow
1982: Arabic Summer School opens, with 25 students and six faculty members teaching Modern Standard Arabic
1986: Japanese is offered for Middlebury undergraduates for the first time
Early 1990s: Arabic Summer School begins to offer Egyptian, Moroccan, Tunisian, Palestinian and Syrian Arabic
1996: The School in Russia adds programs in Voronezh and Yaroslavl for more specialized study options
1997: The Center for Educational Technology (CET) is established to advance language instruction technology, with a five-million-dollar grant from Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
1998: The School in Spain establishes additional programs in Getafe, Logroño and Segovia
1998: The School in Russia adds another program in Irkutsk
1999: The C.V. Starr Foundation gives eight million dollars to develop Middlebury's schools abroad, and the College adopts new title of the C.V. Starr-Middlebury Schools Abroad
2002: The School in Latin America, based in Buenos Aires and Montevideo, will be available to Middlebury students as the College begins a partnership with SUNY Plattsburgh's Southern Cone Programs
2003: Portuguese Summer School to be established as the ninth Language School

Compiled by Claire Bourne and Nicha Rakpanichmanee
Sources:
"The Language Schools: A Recent History"
"The Strength of the Hills" by David Stameshkin

New Image Leaves Languages Behind

(continued from page 4)

"When the Viewbook highlights the International Studies Peak, it serves as a reminder to both prospective students and their families, and also to ourselves, that part of the uniqueness of our international studies curriculum is precisely its truly interdisciplinary nature, of which foreign languages are an integral part," Geisler commented.

Edward Knox, director of the Center for International Affairs and professor of French, noted that a large percentage of foreign language students at Middlebury "are either not majoring in language or are double majoring, which means language competence here extends further through the curriculum than at most of our sister schools."

"This is an adjustment for [members of] the language departments, especially those who have been here for a longer time. It's hard to see that languages are everywhere," Graf explained.

Moran said that the attention paid to other disciplines and initiatives in the Viewbook did not "worry" him. "The sciences, especially because of Bicentennial Hall, and Environmental Studies deserve this attention," he remarked. Nonetheless, he added, "Everybody should be proficient in at least one foreign language. And because I'm a zealot about this, I'll never think enough is being done to promote our language programs."

Pamela Fogg, designer of the current Viewbook, said it was "hard to put everyone's agenda" in the publication. The decision not to include any visuals pertaining to language study was "editorially driven," she continued, adding that the fact that the Language Schools had their own Viewbook contributed to this choice.

A short video entitled "The Pursuit of Truth: 200 Years at Middlebury College" has also stirred up controversy for its flippant portrayal of language study at the College. Produced for Middlebury's bicentennial celebration, the film recalls important events in the College's history and takes the viewer on a visual tour of the institution today. While spending a good deal of time focusing on Middlebury's sixth Peak, the Commons initiative, the video includes only three Language school images. Furthermore, the only comment made about language study at Middlebury is a joking one — a professor emeritus of history commenting, "When I came here people said, 'Oh, you're at Middlebury. You must teach a language,' and I wanted to break their necks."

Zupan said that although comments such as this one are "typical ... of the rough-and-tumble of the academic world," when taken out of context, "it seemed a gratuitously cruel remark to include within the generous celebration of Middlebury's past and present." She added that "the laughter and snickers of other colleagues over that remark [during its premiere in Dana Auditorium on Founders' Day 2000] exerted a chilling effect" on her.

"The Bicentennial video made many of us furious in its skewed presentation of what goes on here," Knox recalled. "More generally, there seems to have been some overcompensation to make sure outsiders don't type-cast us – students, in fact – as simply language freaks."

Despite less publicity in recent years Middlebury's strong reputation for academic-year language education remains a major selling point for the College. "My wide contact with students confirms that Middlebury's long-standing reputation in the languages continues to bring students here," Zupan said. They come with "a prior understanding of the highly-interactive, near-immersion technique, and a recognition of its efficacy" and are willing to communicate with their professors in the foreign language "from the very beginning," she added.

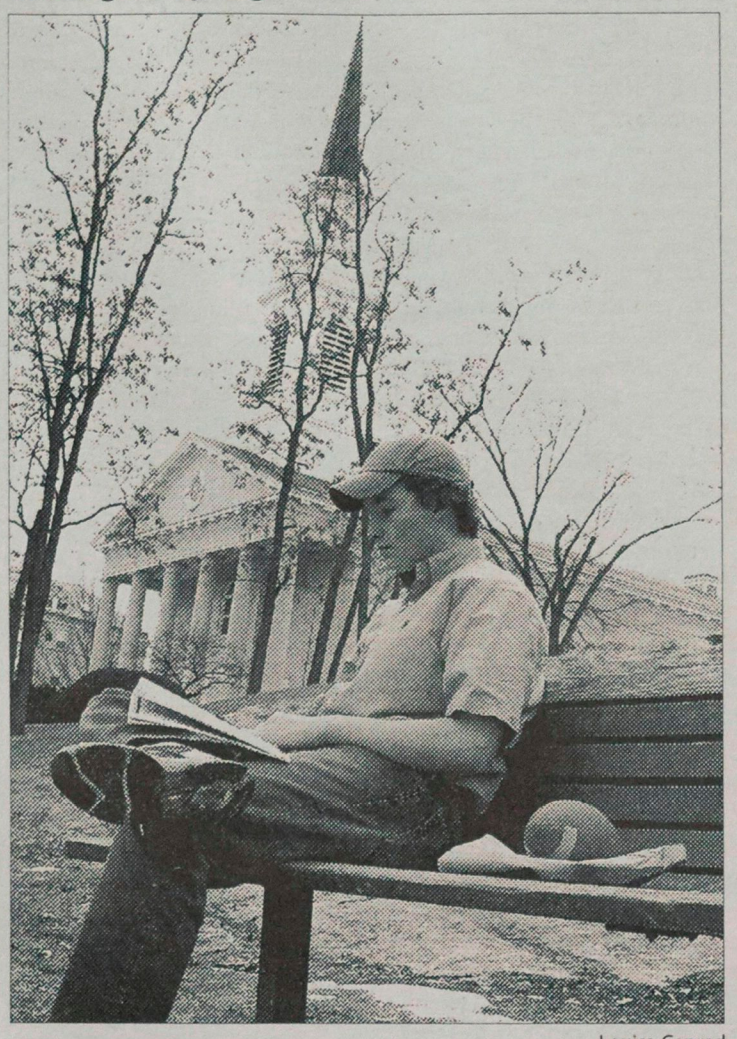
Everybody should be proficient in at least one foreign language. And because I'm a zealot about this, I'll never think enough is being done to promote our language programs.
—Chinese Professor Thomas Moran

She pointed out, however, that she has observed "a diminishment of language professors' direct contact with their students going abroad" and believes that "what is going on in that area does affect [the languages'] profile on and off campus." She asserted that the College "needs to ... strike a balance" between past and present pre-departure procedures. While in the past, language faculty offered students intensive advising, at present, the faculty have a "much diminished role in the students' preparation for study abroad."

"The loosening of language departments' administrative ties to the Schools Abroad," she elucidated, could have "a negative impact on the continuity and quality control between the academic-year and programs abroad," a "problematic" situation given that language students' "junior-year curricula take place largely outside the College's physical confines."

Zupan said she "asks only an even-handed and fair representation of the languages, dignifying that history along with that of all other components of Middlebury's past and present."

Waiting for Spring



Louisa Conrad

After picking up a magazine from his mailbox, *a Middlebury student takes advantage of this week's abnormally warm weather.*

Schools Established in South America, China Next

(continued from page 6)

Hangzhou that I like," Moran said. "We have at least a half dozen graduates working there. It's a lot easier to pick up Hangzhou dialect than it is the dialects of Suzhou, Shanghai and Ningbo [other cities in the region]."

As a coastal city, Hangzhou is known for its abundance of lakes and canals — a potential aesthetic attraction for Middlebury students who want to study Chinese. "It's a very pleasant city to be in," Moran said. "It has that relaxed feel to it down by the lake."

A Model for Latin America

While brokering a final deal with academics at the Hangzhou institutions might prove challenging, faculty in the College's Spanish department is no stranger to complicated negotiations. Before embarking on expanding Middlebury's Spanish language programs in Latin America, faculty members first had to define what — and where — Latin America was.

Assistant Professor of Spanish Miguel Fernandez remembers the initial deliberations well. "Latin America is complicated and so totally different," he said. Each faculty member had "legitimate reasons" to advocate creating programs in different countries, he continued.

"We looked at where students were voting with their feet," Katz said, "and what we found was a large number of Middlebury students participating in the SUNY [State University of New York] Plattsburgh Southern Cones program."

Shortly after assuming his current position four years ago, Katz traveled to SUNY Plattsburgh with Director of Off-Campus Study David Macey to investigate a possible partnership with that institution's Southern Cones program. At the time, the SUNY school had a variety of programs in Chile and elsewhere throughout Latin America. More importantly, Katz explained, the Southern Cones program shared goals that were the same or similar to Middlebury's principal study abroad objectives — total immersion in the language and culture, for instance, and a well-developed infrastructure.

After Macey and Katz presented their findings to the College's Spanish department, the two organized more discussions with SUNY Plattsburgh as well as site visits for department faculty. From this relationship a formal partnership drew closer to a reality, and earlier this year Middlebury joined SUNY Plattsburgh under the formal title "Southern Cones Programs of SUNY Plattsburgh and Middlebury College."

According to Katz, SUNY Plattsburgh would continue to operate its program in Chile, while Middlebury would run a similar one based in Buenos Aires, Argentina. From there the joint program could grow in Argentina and Chile and extend to Uruguay.

Bread Loaf in Mexico

The other half of the College's expansion strategy in Latin America is the prospect of three programs in Mexico. This portion of the initiative, however, is actually a combined effort among the College's Schools Abroad program, the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference and the Spanish Summer Language School.

Assistant Professor of Spanish Gloria Gonzalez-Zenteno, Director of the Bread Loaf School of English Jim Maddox and Katz will travel to Mexico at the end of March to identify institutions that could serve as potential hosts to Middlebury's three programs. They plan to visit four cities, to select the one in which Middlebury's schools will be located.

Maddox originally approached Katz with the idea of creating a new Bread Loaf campus in Mexico, to add to the four current programs around the world. The notion appealed to Katz who, like Maddox, was dealing with "full to overflowing" enrollment at the Spanish summer program at Middlebury. If all goes according to plan, the Mexico summer language program would run simultaneously with the one on Middlebury's Vermont campus.

Gonzalez-Zenteno explained that the same standards in Latin America would be used in Mexico. These standards include complete immersion in the language and culture as well as internships opportunities.

"My role there would be to represent the undergraduate faculty," Gonzalez-Zenteno said, which includes not only the Spanish Department faculty but also interested parties in International Studies and Environmental Studies. "The idea would be to bring this information back to my colleagues and share it with them, so eventually there would be decisions made," she continued.

"In terms of academics we want our students to enroll directly, not in [the Mexican institutions'] programs for foreigners," Gonzalez-Zenteno explained.

Spanish Faculty Adjusts to New Demands

(continued from page 5)

vanced level seminar to complete their degree include not only Spanish majors and minors, but also students of International Studies (both European and Latin American tracks) and International Politics and Economics. Nevertheless, the department has adapted to its diverse student body and boasts a range of upper-level courses on topics from the arts and literature to sociology and politics.

Rogers noted that one of the most pressing issues faced by Spanish faculty today is competition for classroom space on campus. Language teachers tend to favor sites with easily movable chairs and tables that facilitate interactive exercises. They also value multimedia stations that allow them to make use of alternative educational methods such as television and computer programs. Although there are several classrooms on campus with these amenities, Rogers explained that, currently, the demand far exceeds the supply.

One thing that may change the dynamic of the Spanish department is the proposed hiring of a professor of Portuguese. Veguez suggested that the establishment of the Portuguese Summer Language School and an academic year program might entice Spanish and Latin American Studies students looking to try something different. Ultimately, he expects the number of Spanish students at Middlebury to remain steady if not continue to climb. "It's a fact of life that there's more interaction with the large Spanish-speaking population in the U.S. and that isn't going to decline any time soon," he asserted.

Graduates Put Language Study to Personal and Practical Uses

(continued from page 4)
cause all I watched during my meals at Proctor was CNN, well, Western media taught me that all Arabs are terrorists, that all Muslims are terrorists, that all terrorists are Arab Muslims," explained Diaz. His Lebanese-Irish friend, who had just attended the Arabic Language School, "pointed out that I wasn't thinking right."

"I realized that if I were going to be an anthropologist and a student of the Mediterranean area and cultures, I needed to understand the Arabs, their language and their culture because the North African shore and the Levant cover a significant portion of the Mediterranean Sea," Diaz commented. The very next summer, he enrolled in the 1993 Arabic Language School.

"This was when I began to grow out of my ignorance," he recalled. Diaz said he realized the striking similarity between his Spanish culture and Arab culture, from their common vocabulary to the overlapping history of the Spanish and Arabic worlds. Diaz also learned that Islam is a "peaceful religion."

"The Arabic School … was the most amazing experience I have ever had, and perhaps my life-changing experience," he commented. After the Middlebury Arabic School, Diaz eventually enlisted in the United States Navy in 1999 as an Arabic linguist. He advanced his studies in the Arabic program at the Army's Defense Language Institute in California and delivered his graduation speech last May in Arabic. Diaz currently teaches Arabic at the Army Institute and is taking Middle Eastern Studies courses at the graduate level.

While Lindsay has devoted her time to completely new pursuits after mastery in Russian, Diaz has retained the academic focus of his Arabic studies. Annalisa Parent '97 is a French major who has been intertwining the two worlds, right down the road at St. Mary's Elementary School in Middlebury.

In her kindergarten classroom during naptime, Parent motioned to the little girl who was showing her picture book to a teddy bear. "That's part of the charm," she explained. Parent has always wanted to teach young children because "they are so curious, they will say anything and ask you anything and they are open and honest. And they are silly, and I'm silly, too."

Parent began her work at St. Mary's as a director of the afternoon program two years ago, when the school first reopened since the 1940s. The next year she began teaching kindergarten. That year, Parent had the opportunity to teach French to kindergarten and first grade students for a few months, but she opted against being a full-time French teacher.

Instead, Parent teaches private French lessons three hours per week. Her students range from kindergarteners to sixth graders, including a second-grader who has been studying for four years and is now nearly fluent. She describes her lessons as often "self-directed." For example, Parent teaches vocabulary words specific to age-related interest, as in animals for kindergarteners and clothing for sixth graders.

Beyond the French lessons, Parent has kept in touch with many French pen pals, whom she met during her junior year abroad in Nanterre. She is "always reading a French novel" and visits France as often as she can.

"There's no real practical application for [the French major] in my life," said Parent. "It's just fun."

More than pleasure, however, languages are Parent's passion. "I love languages so much," she remarked. She is currently teaching herself Romanian, in preparation for her upcoming trip to Romania. She has also bought "Spanish for Dummies" and has long learned "a couple of phrases in so many languages."

"In a trivial sense, 'I' wouldn't exist as a monolingual," agreed Wright Frank '95. Another French major, Frank earned a Master's degree in linguistics, "developed an interest in the Arab world through friends from Palestine and Lebanon" and attended the Arabic Language School. He has recently returned from a Peace Corps project in Morocco.

"I enjoyed working with Nuer, a nilo-saharan language spoken in southern Sudan through refugees in the Buffalo and Rochester areas while writing my Master's thesis," Frank continued. "I'm torn between a desire to learn languages with a practical import and languages that are a little 'out there' and not studied much."

However, Frank also said that he was originally inspired to study Arabic because the language was "hugely under-studied." This language of increasing popularity expects to graduate over a hundred people this summer — a hundred more stories to tell.

Faculty Cope with Waning Interest

(continued from page 5)
sive on-campus language study. The Berlin trip would complement the new Middlebury School Abroad in Berlin, slated to open this fall.

The Winter Term proposal, currently under consideration by the Curriculum Committee, would "expose students to Berlin and hopefully inspire them to continue studying German," explained Matthias. She said she anticipated a final decision on the proposal by spring break.

While 26 students began studying German this fall, the department "is hoping for 30 to 35 next year if the Berlin program is offered," Matthias commented, which would be "ideal for the number of faculty we have."

Associate Professor of German Roman Graf also foresees an enrollment jump should the Berlin program materialize. "Berlin will be so attractive that students will take German 101," he said, adding that Berlin "is the New York of Europe," a "vibrant hub for politics and culture."

Aside from the potential Berlin program, Professor of German and Department Chair Kamakshi Murti said the department would try to attract students by incorporating diversity issues — such as minority literatures from German-speaking countries — in coursework. They will also continue to offer German classes in English, with the option of either English or German discussion.

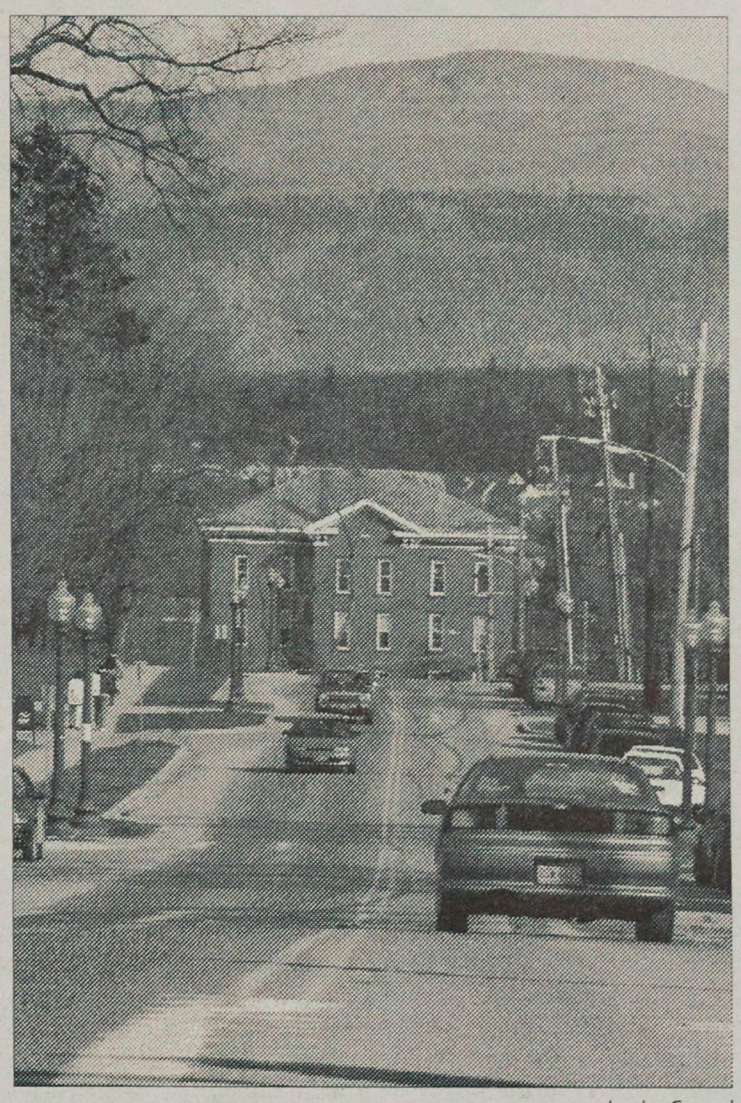
The Japanese Department, having witnessed an enrollment decline from 73 in the spring of 1992 to 56 this semester, has similar plans to promote interest in their language.

Ogawa mentioned the possibility of sponsoring an interdisciplinary Winter Term class on Japan next year designed to whet students' appetite for Japanese studies. "Students who have the opportunity to visit Japan are usually interested in learning more," he said.

He expects Japan's "strategic importance" to play a role in boosting enrollment. "Japan is an important ally of the United States in combating terrorism," Ogawa said, adding that the country is "central in the generation of popular culture, especially manga and anime." In addition, the Japanese economy remains the second largest in the world.

As Graf joked, "They don't teach you in graduate school to worry about whether you'll have students in your class," but coping with the ebbs and flows of language popularity, driven by political and economic events, is part of the reality of teaching foreign languages at Middlebury.

Down the Road



Louisa Conrad

With traffic speeding by, *the Green Mountains rise over Twilight Hall on Tuesday afternoon.*

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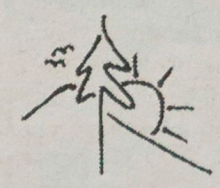

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Incidents Prompt Safety Concerns Statewide

By Mary Christine Kwiatek
Staff Writer

Several recent crimes in local communities have raised questions of residents' safety in Vermont.

In October a Middlebury College student was assaulted in the school's Hadley Hall, prompting the College's Office of Public Safety to begin locking residence halls at night as a means of deterring further crime.

> **I want the school to be an environment that remains safe and healthy, where students can get the best education possible.**
>
> **—Tom Hanley, Middlebury police chief**

Reflecting a similar concern with safety, Middlebury's UD-3 school board unanimously voted last Tuesday to have a police officer work at Middlebury Union High School (MUHS) full time.

In addition the two teenagers responsible for last year's murder of Dartmouth College professors Half and Susanne Zantop, Robert Tulloch and James Parke, admitted last week to attempting to force entry into four Vermont homes in a six-month period prior to the murders.

In response to these incidents, the College and local communities have implemented measures to ensure students' and residents' safety.

Middlebury Police Chief Tom Hanley said he feels that having a full-time police officer at MUHS is a valuable resource for the students. He added that the majority of the calls to which the police department responds come from the high school.

By mandating that a police officer be present at all times, the department will avoid having officers traveling back and forth to MUHS for every call.

According to Hanley, "Most things that go on in the high school are conduct related: fights, locker issues, bomb scares and drugs."

The more time the officer spends in the school, the more confidence the students have in him, Hanley added.

The decision to place a police officer at MUHS was a proactive one. In addition to ensuring student safety, the officer will also be available to assist students with personal and family problems, with the goal of building a positive rapport with the high schoolers.

Additionally, the program will try to incorporate an instructional component, such as having the officer teach drivers education and criminal justice classes at the high school.

Hanley said he is optimistic about the school board's decision and assures the community that the officer is "not a security guard."

Students at MUHS are also excited about the step. In fact, approximately 40 representatives of the student body voted on whether students felt a need for full-time police presence at their school.

The results were unanimous in favor of the board's proposal. The overwhelming student approval confirms Hanley's belief that the police department and the school system should not be viewed as "two separate entities."

> **Living in Vermont does not ultimately guarantee a safe environment. Crime occurs everywhere, and often it is the naivety and false sense of security that attract criminals or potential criminals.**

Hanley continued, "I want the school to be an environment that remains safe and healthy, where students can get the best education possible."

The new police program represents one step that has been taken locally to protect an already safe community.

On a statewide scale, Vermont's crime rate has come into the spotlight.

The news that Tulloch and Parke attempted to lure several Vermont residents into their deadly scheme has made many Vermonters feel at risk.

This has served as a wake-up call for Vermonters — leading people to realize that simply living in Vermont does not guarantee personal safety.

Crime occurs everywhere, and often it is the naivete and false sense of security that attract criminals.

According to the Disaster Center Web site and statistics compiled by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Vermont has one of the lowest crime rates in the country.

During the 1990s, Vermont had an average rate of 2.1 murders per 100,000 residents each year. These data compare with an average of 3.0 murders per 100,000 residents in Massachusetts, 9.9 in California and 6.7 in Alaska.

For the year 2000, Vermont had the 44th highest reported crime rate relative to population, indicating that although the state is not insulated from criminal activity, it has one of the lowest rates of crime in the country.

But the recent crimes on the campus, town and state level have made Vermonters more cautious about their own safety.

Hanley said that the police department wants to "take a safe system and keep it safe."

Hanley recognized, though, that there is no way to guarantee safety, even in a small rural state like Vermont.

As Hanley remarked, "We don't have castle walls around the state of Vermont."

Bryan McQuade

Recent crimes in Middlebury and surrounding areas has prompted safety concerns statewide.

Proposed Relocation of Town Hall Spurs Controversy

By Devin Zatorski
Associate Editor

The debate over whether to relocate the Middlebury Municipal Building has splintered town residents into several competing factions, all offering different solutions to a problem that has dragged on for over eight years.

According to Town Planner Fred Dunnington, the issue has been fueled by "the frustration of the voters, who see the current building as less than attractive and honorable." Some residents advocate relocating the municipal building, which houses town government offices, to the Maple Manor Motel site off Court Street, while others support renovating the existing structure, which needs cosmetic improvements and a new roof.

Debate largely centers on Middlebury College's offer to underwrite up to $3 million of the cost of constructing a new town hall in exchange for the land where the aging structure now stands. While the College is wary of being perceived as driving the decision-making process, it has repeatedly expressed interest in converting the current town hall lot into a park, thereby creating a more welcoming approach to campus.

Last month, in preparation for the March 4 Town Meeting, Middlebury resident Gerard Trudeau circulated a citizen's petition directing the Town Board of Selectmen to negotiate a deal with the College.

The Trudeau petition called for the College to provide $3 million toward the construction of a new town hall on the College-owned Maple Manor Motel property, near the Vermont State Liquor Outlet, in exchange for the current municipal building plot, which would be torn down to create a park extending from the intersection of College and South Main Streets to Twilight Hall.

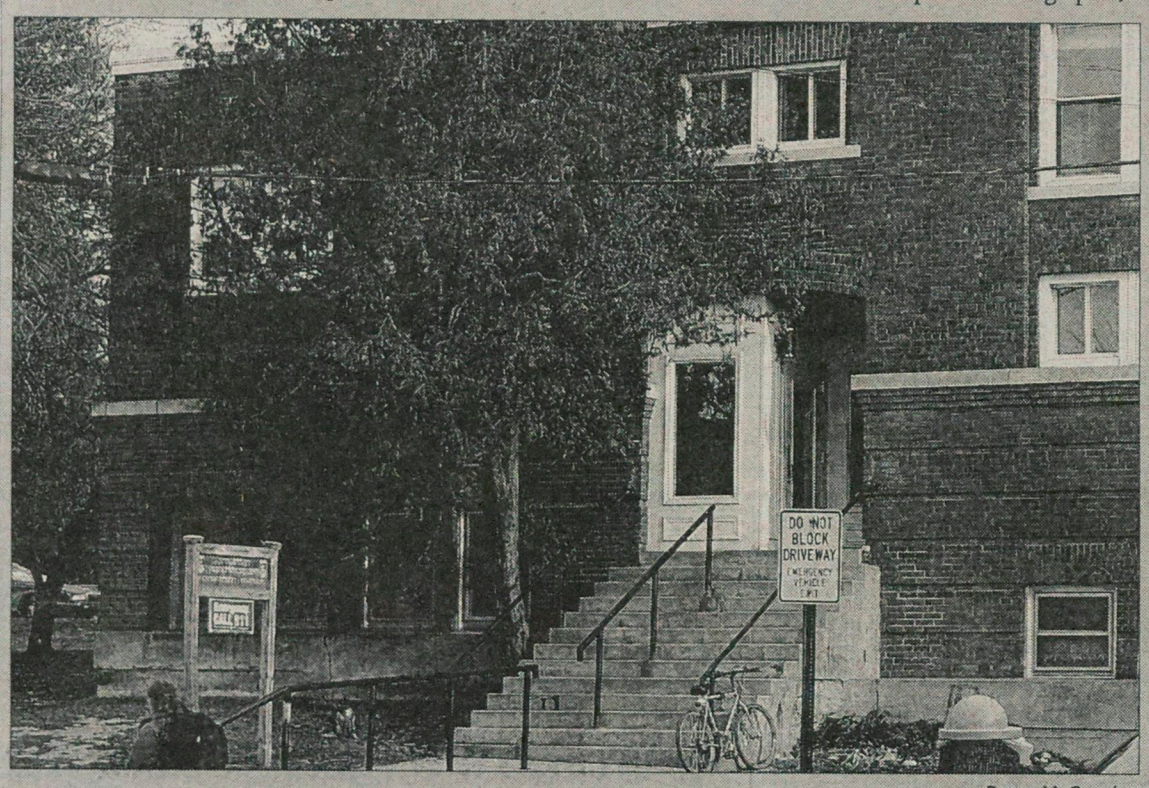
Trudeau, a former owner of the Maple Manor Motel, told *The Addison Independent* that he was simply trying to promote progress. "We've been flogging this thing verbally for months and years," he said. After garnering over 700 signatures, Trudeau's petition landed on the advisory town warning ballot, subject to public vote at the annual Town Meeting.

Dunnington said that there is significant division even within the group supporting the Maple Manor site. Some genuinely support relocating the town hall to Maple Manor, but others advocate Trudeau's proposal simply because they are frustrated by the sluggish progress made in recent years. "Still others support it simply because they want to get as much money from the College as possible," Dunnington said.

Such division leads to a "less stable and predictable means of community planning," according to Dunnington. Chair of the Board of Selectmen John Tenny agreed, saying that the March 4 vote was unlikely to yield any definitive direction.

Director of Public Affairs Phil Benoit declined comment on

(see Counter-Proposal, page 11



Bryan McQuade

Debate over the future of the Middlebury Municipal Building continues for over its eighth year.

Trail Around Middlebury Offers Local Recreation, Education

By Megan Michelson
Local News Editor

Winding its way around Middlebury and surrounding towns is a 14-mile footpath called the Trail Around Middlebury (TAM) that offers students and members of the local community a source of outdoor recreation and a physical landscape in which to learn about the natural environment.

The trail, which loops through the Middlebury College campus and extends to sections within the Otter Creek Gorge Land, Wright Park and Battell Woods, is maintained by the Middlebury Area Land Trust (MALT), a grassroots organization that works to preserve and conserve natural resources and land in Addison County.

The MALT, founded in 1987, protects over 1,000 acres and primarily is supported by volunteer workers.

These volunteers donate thousands of hours for trail maintenance, office work and other projects.

"We have no paid maintenance staff, and our volunteers come from a broad spectrum. Many of them are Middlebury College students," said Katie Reylley, office manager for the MALT.

There are approximately 60 volunteers working during the span of one year in contributing to the organization's mission of improving recreational areas, conserving working farms, protecting wildlife habitat and enhancing local cultural, educational and historical resources.

The type of volunteer work varies seasonally, but there is work to be done year round. The nonprofit organization is funded by private donations, membership fees and the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board.

One purpose of the lengthy trail surrounding Middlebury is to promote and provide for year round outdoor activities, such as running, walking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Mountain bikes are also permitted in specific areas.

[Director of the Middlebury Area Land Trust Gioia] Kuss hopes that with the completion of the trail it will see a lot more use by local residents and students. She also mentioned that too much could result in negative effects on the land.

"I think there is great recreation land around town and to have access to those rural lands is very important," said Executive Director of the MALT Gioia Kuss '83.

In addition, the trail is used as an outdoor classroom to learn about local plant and wildlife species.

The Middlebury College environmental studies department uses the trail as a locale to study local flora and fauna.

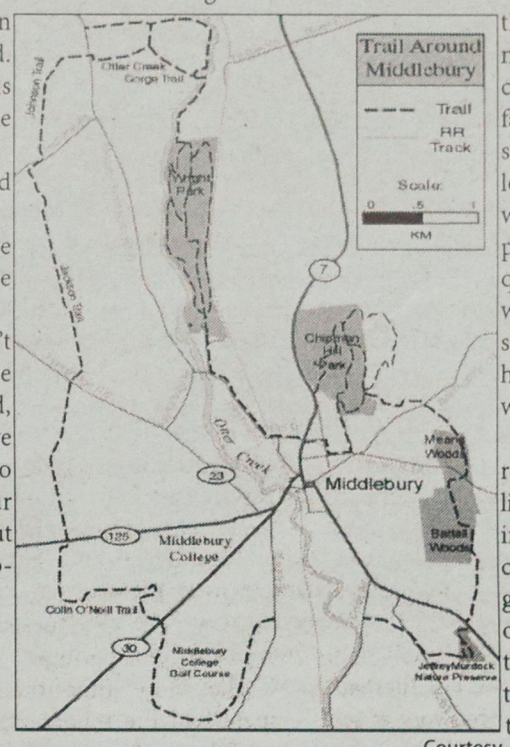
Kuss conceived the idea for a comprehensive and linked trail over 10 years ago and has since developed it into a defined and diverse trail that is well marked with yellow signs along its periphery.

Since official development of the trail began in 1989, local residents have taken advantage of the opportunites made available by the footpath, even though it was not finished until last year.

Two bridges were recently completed over Otter Creek to bring the trail full circle. "The last step was crossing Otter Creek and now the two new bridges completely link the trail," explained Kuss.

The bridges were built with financial support from local donations and the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation. Kuss hopes that with the completion of the trail it will see a lot more use by local residents and students.

She also mentioned that too much use could result in negative effects on the land. "There is a fine line between use and abuse. We have to be careful we don't over use the land, and we need to keep our eye out for erosion," cautioned Kuss.



A map of the Trail Around Middlebury. Courtesy

Conservation of the land is a main priority for the MALT. Last year the organization conducted a public survey to gauge the town's consensus on priority of land use and conservation.

The town of Middlebury voted that their number one concern was farmland conservation. Following this was a desire to protect the quality of water, open space and habitat for wildlife.

The MALT relies on public opinion and involves local citizens and government in order to ensure the support of the community behind their projects.

What is more, an early advent of "mud season" has not deterred students and local residents from enjoying the community trail.

Counter-Proposal Praises Downtown Location

(continued from page 10)

Trudeau's proposal, saying the College "has no business making that decision for [the town]." Until the Selectmen author a formal proposal, he said, the College would take no official stance.

Dunnington commented, "Publicly, the College does not want to be seen as driving the decision, but privately they have been open to discussing this."

In response to Trudeau's proposal, Weybridge resident Bill Roper authored a petition suggesting that the municipal building remain in downtown Middlebury. His one-sentence petition reads, "We, the undersigned residents of the town of Middlebury, strongly urge the Middlebury Board of Selectmen to locate the town offices in downtown Middlebury to ensure preservation of the town's economic, social and cultural integrity."

In an interview with *The Middlebury Campus*, Roper said Maple Manor "is part of the strip development part of Middlebury," which includes the A&P Supermarket and Ames Department Store.

He fears that locating the own hall at Maple Manor would serve as a "catalyst for additional growth" in that area, which the town plan stipulates should be a satellite community, not a community center. "The seat of town government should remain in the historically significant part of the community," Roper maintained.

Roper said he wished the College would consider financing the renovation of the current municipal building to create a "stately entrance" to campus instead of "ruling that out of the picture." He continued, "The College offer was generous but it was presented in such a way that it is coming back to haunt them. I wouldn't be surprised if the College wished it had never made the offer."

He characterized Maple Manor as a "gateway to the town" and the current municipal building property it as a "gateway to the College," saying that he "wished the College considered both equally important."

While Roper's petition missed the Jan. 25 deadline for inclusion on the Town Meeting ballot, Tenny said "[Roper and his supporters] simply want to make a show of force for the opposition view," touting the municipal building as a symbol of downtown Middlebury.

Dunnington said the town hall controversy is "an issue of competing individual visions," a complex web of viewpoints that have to be reconciled through public process.

"I don't mean to suggest that there is something nefarious about it," said Dunnington, "but the College's proposal definitely has the town in division."

After the advisory vote on Trudeau's petition on March 4, Tenny said the Board of Selectmen plans to formulate a proposal to put to a final public vote on general election day on Nov. 7.

Counting on Vermont

18

The age Vermont teens must be in order to legally have a body piercing in any location besides their earlobes, regardless of parental consent, according to a new legislative agreement that will be passed as soon as the proposal receives Governor Dean's signature. The bill will also include a requirement that tattoo and body piercing parlors be licensed and policed for the first time in the state of Vermont.

40,000

Number of doors of Vermont homes knocked on in 2001 by staff members of the Vermont Public Interest Research Group in attempts to enlist residents' support on environmental and consumer issues. The organization hopes that the events leading up to the death of two Dartmouth College professors last year, in which the two perpatrators pretended to be conducting an environmental survey in order to gain access into homes, will not dampen public willingness to listen to and support the canvassers.

60

Percent more per drug prescription on average that Vermonters are paying in comparison to the rest of the United States. The Vermont Senate approved a new bill that would require pharmaceutical companies and their sales personnel to have state licenses. The licensing fee will help lower marketing fees which ultimately will decrease the cost of prescription drugs.

$1.9 million

Amount stolen from an armored car belonging to the Berkshire Armored Car Services in Rutland, Vt., last month in what was the largest robbery ever in Vermont. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) recently released its first physical description of the armed suspect, who tied up two guards and escaped with the money. The armored car company posted a $50,000 reward for information leading to the recovery of the money, and the FBI is offering a $20,000 reward for tips leading to the suspect's arrest.

22

Percent decrease of donations in the last year to the Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf, an organization that provides grocery items to over 1,400 homes in Chittenden County each month, prepares 150 hot meals every day and provides bag lunches and after school snacks to hungry children. The resulting drop of 88,000 pounds of food will result in a stricter budget for the care giving service.

Statistics courtesy of The Rutland Herald *and* The Burlington Free Press. *Compiled by the Local News Editor.*

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Editorial

An Ivory Tower of Babel

The strength of Middlebury College's language program — grounded in the academic year course offerings, the summer Language Schools and the C.V. Starr Middlebury Schools Abroad — continues and has been buttressed by an increased interest in the school's summer program after Sept. 11. But as Middlebury enters its third century, it appears that the College's focus is falling disproportionately onto certain other aspects of campus life and learning, leaving a historical emphasis on the languages to fall by the wayside.

The fact that so many students study at Middlebury's schools abroad is also testament to the College's worldwide reputation in the field. While it is important not to stereotype Middlebury as purely being a "language school," the College is not marketing language study as heavily as it has in years past, either internally in terms of pure administrative support or externally in College publications like the Viewbook.

Currently, the Viewbook, circulated among prospective students through the admissions office, contains a relatively larger amount of information and photographs highlighting Middlebury's environmental studies program, the sciences, athletics and cultural events, with only slight mention of language departments and their long history of excellence at the College. The representation of language study in the video created for the Bicentennial Celebration, "The Pursuit of Truth," was similarly brief, with more recent initiatives like the commons system granted more airtime.

The Viewbook and like publications need not focus solely on languages or on any part of the many academic programs and activities the College offers. Well-balanced publicity for all departments, reflecting the reality of what students can partake in and experience when they arrive at Middlebury, should be the focus of all admissions-oriented or promotional material. The languages are one of Middlebury's "Peaks of Excellence" and as such should be given equal representation and prominence to reflect the actual esteem in which they are held — on and off campus.

A significant portion of Middlebury's historical reputation of having a prominent language program stems in part from its Language Schools. These attract students of all ages and academic levels to attend full immersion courses in eight foreign languages. The addition of the Arabic School in 1982 and the Portuguese School, which will begin in 2003, are positive indications that the Language Schools are meeting the demands of increased and demand for languages.

Middlebury's schools abroad have flourished with the addition of six new schools since 1995. The expansion of the schools strengthens the language courses offered during the academic year as more students are choosing to travel abroad through the College's language programs and necessitating a growth in the locations of study offered.

As Middlebury attempts to highlight its newest achievements and increasingly popular academic departments, it should not detract from emphasizing the tradition of language study at the College.

The Middlebury Campus

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by Kate DeForest

-Nahal Batmanghelidj '02- *-Elizabeth Brookbank '04-*

Words Can Be Louder Than Actions

FAM Reminds Community To Think Before We Speak

"Why are sophomore girls better than senior girls?" asked a WRMC DJ during an afternoon radio show on Jan. 26. I had no idea, but I was curious, so I decided to stay tuned and listen to what the hosts Andrew Zrike '02, John Joy '02 and some of their friends had to say. "Because they are not fat yet and you can still fit them into the trunk," commented one. "What I really prefer are 17-year-olds. Two drinks and they go limp," interrupted another. Now, I don't pretend to know what is going through your head as you read these comments, but given my lingering faith in humanity, I'd like to believe that you find them disturbing. I did. I pulled my car over and began to record all that they were saying on a piece of paper. "I'm going to be a dirty old man when I grow up. Hey little girl, want some candy," they continued.

But wait, you may be thinking, these were only jokes. Could I be overreacting? What's the harm in words? With the help of my friend, Elizabeth, I will tell you. Let's consider this: a person makes a direct comment to you about raping women. It would be impossible for you to prove a connection between their words and their past or future actions, but you would have substantial reason to believe that this statement informs their beliefs about this crime. Think about what impact that would have on you as a listener, especially if you were a woman. Now let us ask you what is the difference between this direct statement and the implication of such a statement.

To bring it back to the specific situation at hand, what other possible reason would one have for putting a woman in a trunk? Not enough seatbelts? What other possible reason would one have for making a 17-year-old girl "go limp"? What message were these DJs and their guests sending to their audience? An audience that potentially included women who have experienced being "put in trunks," or who have been given a few drinks so that they would just "go limp." Also take into consideration the young male listeners who may look up to the college students they hear on the radio. Now, compliments of these DJs and their show, we can add Middlebury College radio to the ever-growing list of sources that normalize such crimes as rape to the youth of our culture.

So what is so inherently wrong with implying rape? We have covered that. Not only are these "jokes" not funny, they are punishable by law. So to those of you who feel we are going overboard, know this: we are not doing nearly as much as is our legal right. In all fairness, the DJs of this show did publicly apologize for their actions; it was on page 10 of last week's *Campus* in the lower left-hand corner, in case you missed it. But we feel that this matter deserves more serious attention, which is why we decided to offer a follow-up to their vaguely worded apology. As a last concession to them, it is duly noted that they terminated and apologized for their offensive commentary as soon as a student called in and expressed her concern. That they said these things in the first place, that it even had to be brought to their attention that making such statements was wrong, are the real tragedies.

Now to the more important issue at hand. We know that such conversations happen all the time, we are not naïve. But since not all of them are broadcast over the radio for potentially thousands of people to hear, we would like to take this opportunity to implore those of you who, in the future, are actively or passively involved in such discourse to step back and think about the larger implications of what you say. By normalizing such actions you perpetuate a cycle of violence in our society that could someday pose a direct threat to the women you love. Even though you may not be an actual perpetrator of such crimes, those who are don't care if their victims happen to be your mothers, sisters, girlfriends, wives or daughters. Actions and words are inextricably linked. That said, in the future think before you speak. Sounds simple enough, right? But as we have witnessed, it is easier said than done.

Corrections

In the Feb. 20 issue of *The Campus*, the article, "Spending Sunday Night Riding with Middlebury Ambulance" mispelled the name of Scott Faucett '01.5 and did not include Carter Brooke '03.5 in the list of students participating in the Middlebury Volunteer Ambulance Association. A front page photo in the same issue incorrectly identified Jen Marlow '02 as Jen Bloomer '02. *The Campus* regrets the error.

Letters to the Editor Policy

The Campus welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works to Campus@Middlebury.edu, Drawer 30 or directly to the Opinions Editors by 5 p.m. Tuesday.
The Campus retains the right to edit all submissions.

-Drew Pugsley '04.5-

Scandal Tarnishes Olympic Gold

I deeply regret to inform the Middlebury College community that my dear friend Estye Ross '04.5 and I will not be writing again this semester because Estye has sold her soul to the Theater Department. However, Thas been gracious enough to keep me on as Olympic figure skating analyst.

The recent events that have occurred at the Olympics concerning the pairs figure skating competition has virtually the entire world up in arms. With a nearly flawless performance and fairy tale comeback the Canadian pair of Jamie Salé and David Pelletier captivated Salt Lake City as well as the entire world. And they came in second??? Let me start out by saying that there is no doubt in my expert opinion that the Canadian pair did indeed deserve the gold medal. That being said I would also like to remind everyone that the Olympic games were first played with the spirit of competition in mind and the best man always won. Many Olympic events, however, have become competitions between the West and the former Soviet bloc and figure skating is no exception. When Salé and Pelletier received their duplicate gold medals they became the first non-Soviet or Russian pair to do so since 1960. The Canadians and the Russians are co-gold medalists and everyone is happy, right? Of course not.

The principles of fair play, competition and sportsmanship upon which the Olympics were originally founded would best have been served if the Russian

pair had simply acknowledged defeat from the beginning and accepted the silver medals initially awarded to the Canadian pair. All of them should just be proud and honored to have been able to participate. However, the first Olympic Games took place many thousands of years ago and believe it or not, the Russians accepted the gold medals without batting an eye (not that I would have done any different) and are now outraged at having to share the most revered prize in their field. Their victory, however, will never be as sweet as the Russian pair who won at Nagano four years ago or the Canadian pair who won in 1960 because of all of the controversy surrounding it.

French judge Marie-Reine Le Gougne, however, was pressured and this controversy did happen. The International Skating Union (ISU) and Olympic officials have set an incredible precedent by allowing the two pairs to share first place. Salé and Pelletier claim that they entered a complaint because of problems with the system and I would love to believe them. Hopefully the ISU investigation will delve deeper into finding a real, effective solution to this problem.

Lately Le Gougne has been alleging that she was pressured not by her own federation, as she originally indicated, but by the Canadians. In a recent interview she uncovered tactics used by Canada as well as other countries to get votes. She specifically cited a party to which she was invited thrown by the Canadians in order to win the vote of a Polish judge; she also claimed that as soon as she had been announced as a judge for the competition "people were so kind, so attentive." As I am sure that vote trading has occurred before in the sport and in the Olympics, it leaves us two plausible solutions: either the judging process must be completely overhauled or the participants in the figure skating event have to accept it as the way things are. Is it possible that figure skating, of all sports, is just corrupted and that the system cannot be recovered?

Though the true spirit of the very first Olympics may not be salvageable in this particular disaster, at least the final results were fair. I mean, all four of these competitors achieved their dream: winning the Olympic gold. Right? I am sure that my familiar sarcastic tone is pretty obvious; this new precedent is obviously not so simple and not enough. It seems to me that one of the two should have been declared the champions.

Though the early Olympians competed simply for the love of competition, in the 21st century a tie would open the door for too much future controversy and reopen some closed doors from the past. Many of these skaters earn their livelihood through endorsements and other financial benefits of skating and if they are unfairly judged by anyone, changes should be attempted. While Salé and Pelletier have most definitely gotten their 15 minutes, awarding duplicate gold medals so as not to punish one group and in order to be fair to another is absolutely not the answer. Most importantly, this controversy should teach the athletes to remember the true Olympic spirit and be happy to have the honor of competing and representing their respective countries.

QUICK TAKES

BOOYAH!

Winter Carnival festivities enchant the campus thanks to dedicated students and staff. Now if we could just make those coat check lines disappear ...

BOO HOO!

Sure, wearing shorts in February is a novelty, but **where's the snow?**

BOO HOO!

And if spring is really here, lets get rid of that pesky **winter parking ban!**

BOOYAH!

Hockey playoffs this weekend. More students camped outside Kenyon for tickets than if U2 were in town.

BOOYAH!

Brian the Juggler has the talent, lots of it ... and he proved he knows how to use it as he placed 1st at "The Night Club" Friday night.

Compiled by the editors of *The Campus*
Written by Julianne Frisbie and Deborah Jones

Avant-Garde Politics

-Ben Gore '04-

Slick Footing:

Democratic Process Lost in an Oil Spill

Before Dick Cheney disappeared last year, he held a number of super-secret meetings to map out a national energy strategy. Who was there? What did they say? Was the wine good?

The American people, well, at least some of us, are interested in knowing. A number of us are especially curious because the national energy plan that came out of these chummy retreats appears to be the work of people who are either extremely stupid or are lying to us about their motives (or perhaps both). When we asked Ari Fleischer about this at a press conference, he responded quickly, saying, "None of your damned business." The administration has arrogantly invoked 'executive privilege' because it takes the sickeningly patriarchal attitude that the people whose country this is shouldn't know what's going on.

A number of groups disagree with the administration. There are the usual players, of course. The Sierra Club and Natural Resources Defense Council are both filing suit under various public information laws. There are some pretty unusual characters, too. The General Accounting Office, which sounds like the bleak bureaucracy it is, has decided, at the request of Rep. Henry Waxman (D-CA), to flex its theoretical muscle (it's the financial investigating arm of Congress) and get the documents for its boss.

A summary of the administration's energy proposal goes something like this: produce more oil domestically, build more nuclear power plants and spend enough money on clean energy to appear to be doing something about it. Why is this the plan and how did it get made our business?

For starters, most of that new oil is probably going to come from public lands; that is, lands that you own. The most photogenic case is, of course, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, but you can kiss National Forest and Bureau of Land Management lands all over the West goodbye too.

The next reason is that they may very well decide to build a nuclear power plant in your hometown. You certainly won't get asthma from air pollution, but you might very well get cancer if something goes wrong. Not to mention that in order to make new plants possible, they've decided to store all of our radioactive waste underneath a mountain in Nevada. The problems for Nevada (which is a beautiful place if you haven't been there) are obvious. But keep in mind that they'll also be transporting all that waste across the whole country by truck on normal roads.

These ideas just don't make sense. Sure, we could produce all of our power with nuclear fission, but why dig up all that uranium and deal with all that waste when we could just build more wind turbines? We could spend half of our discretionary budget on a military whose main purpose is to keep oil flowing, but why do that when we could just drive reasonably sized, fuel efficient cars — or better yet ride bicycles? These questions are important ones that need to get asked. But how can we ask them when our chief executive only invites his frat buddies to sleepovers?

Most of the founders of this country, with the exception of Thomas Jefferson, were only halfhearted about democracy. Over time, we have eroded their paternalistic vision, abolishing slavery, giving women the right to vote and so on. But many vestiges of this nauseating way of thinking remain. The 2000 election showed the need to abolish the ridiculous Electoral College. If the administration successfully invokes executive privilege to hide its dirty back room deals ("they are all Enron," someone shouted in my ear in New York three weeks ago) it may very well be time to abolish executive privilege.

Democracy, that is, the right of people to participate in running their own lives, is based on transparency and the dialogue and conflict that comes from the free exchange of information. Ignore for a second the fact that virtually 100 percent of the information you receive about the outside world comes from six corporations who couldn't care less about democracy, and contemplate this blatant arrogance on the part of people who claim, with their fingers crossed behind their backs, that they work for you. Is self-government possible when you only know half of what's going on?

So, we've moved quickly from energy policy to the fate of our country, but in the end it comes down to this: I don't want our remaining wild places destroyed for any reason, especially not dumb ones. I don't want more uranium mining in Utah's canyon lands or another reactor in my hometown.

I like it when the sky above my home is blue and I can breath when I ride my bicycle. I'd like to see an energy policy that isn't a reactionary handout to the industries that wrote it. The problem is, when information is hidden, when democracy ceases to function, they get to say, "too damned bad."

Winter Carnival 2002

Bryan McQuade

A member of the Class of 2002 whipped out his fancy dance tricks at the Winter Carnival Ball, "Happily Ever After" on Saturday night in Nelson.

Bryan McQuade

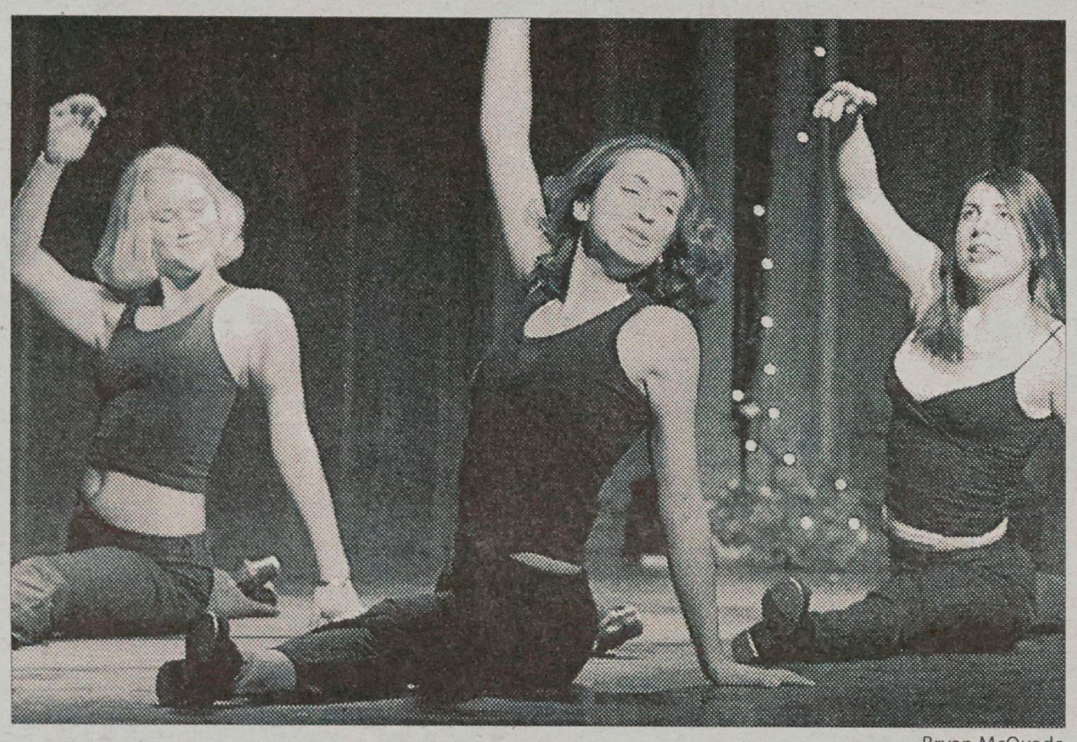
Brian Fletcher '04 gives an overwhelming display of his talent on Friday evening, demonstrating to both audience and judges that he deserved winning first place in the Night Club.

Louisa Conrad

Two young children, dressed in garb inspired by the children's book "Where the Wild Things Are," pause on the ice at Chip Kenyon '85 Arena during the "Bedtime Stories" ice show.

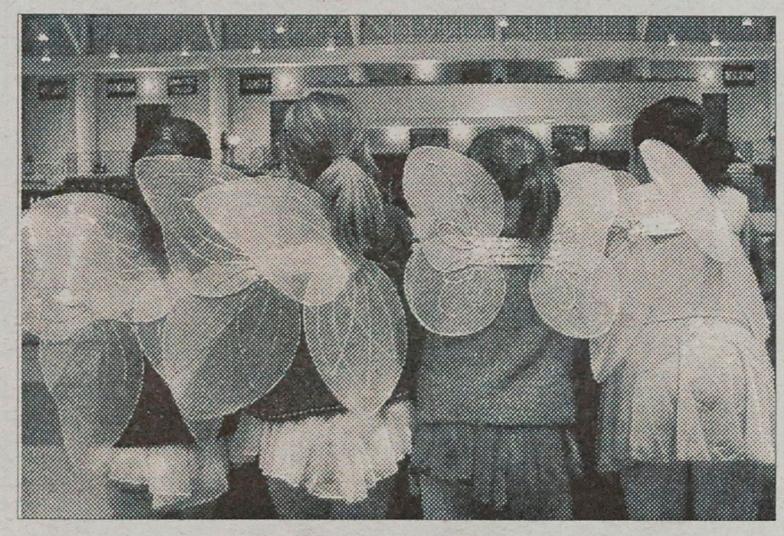
Courtesy

Sarah Brophy '02 (right), captain of the women's alpine ski team and Hillary Patzer '02 (left) receive the Rikert Cup, which goes to the women's overall winner. The Middlebury ski team came in second overall for the weekend.



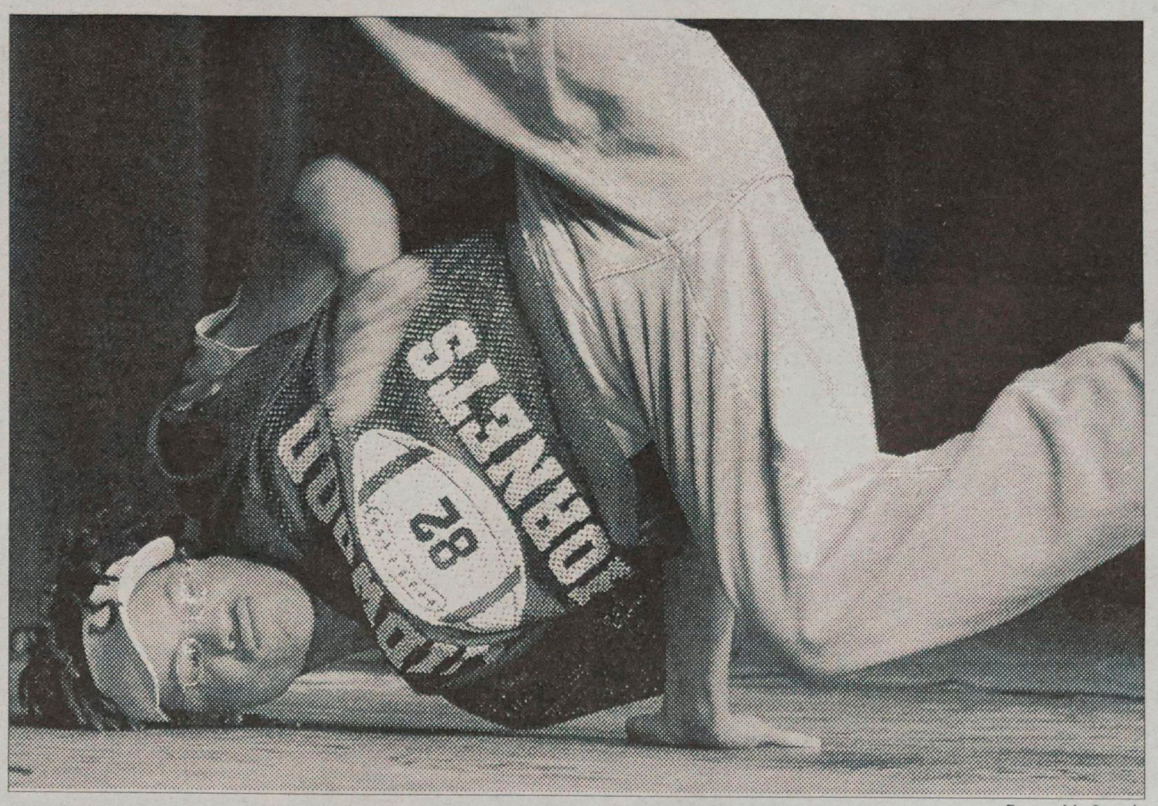
Bryan McQuade

Steff Hodge '04.5, Bethany Mabee '02 and Michelle Clasquin '03 of On Tap were some of the star performers at Winter Carnival's traditional Friday evening's Night Club.



Louisa Conrad

Little angels from the local community look on as their elder skaters at practice at Thursday's ice show's dress rehearsal.



Bryan McQuade

Morgan Jones '04 thrills the crowd with his breakdancing at the Winter Carnival Night Club.

Bryan McQuade

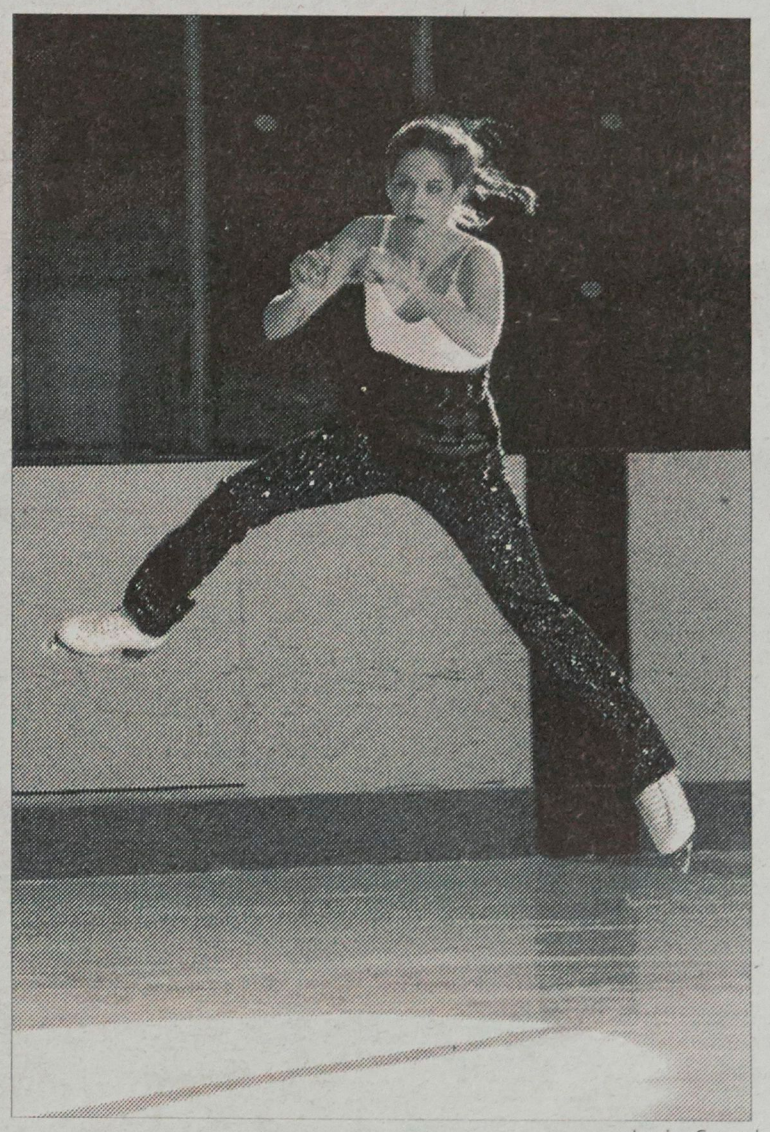
Raam Wong '02 delights the crowd at Friday night's packed Night Club with his magic tricks.

Louisa Conrad

Despite the long lines for food, Nelson Arena was fully decorated — including the Dining Services staff.

Louisa Conrad

It was time for cake on Thursday night at the opening event of Winter Carnival in Nelson Arena.



Louisa Conrad

The ice show "Bedtime Stories" featured many talented skaters from the College and town alike.

Bryan McQuade

The celebrity judges at Friday's Night Club, including Mike Kirkland '03.5, jokingly gave the master of ceremonies, Damian Washington '03, a score of 1. This was the first year the Night Club included judges.

Celebrating February "Once Upon a Carnival"

Senior Hurdles

By Alison Hertel
Staff Writer

"Sex and the City." Maybe you watch it. Maybe you don't. But I'm willing to bet you've at least heard about it. Magazines have written articles about the popular series, questioning whether a mere TV show has changed women's attitudes toward men and relationships.

I think that's attributing a little too much power to HBO, but maybe I'm not giving "Sex and the City" enough credit. I must admit that my friends and I have been known to sit around discussing which character each of us is most like — Carrie, Charlotte, Miranda or Samantha.

One undisputed power that the show does have is its influence over fashion. It's done wonders for publicizing the name Manolo Blahnik — Carrie's favorite brand of shoes. And, ladies, don't tell me you haven't caught yourself oogling at one of the outfits donned by one of the show's four divas. I just reread that last line, and I think it sounded like something Joan Rivers would say, but we're going to let it go.

Since HBO is not a part of life at Middlebury, my friends and I are watching the most recent season on a tape sent up by my roommate Jess's mother. We are four episodes into the six-episode season, and I'm dying to know what happens. But please don't tell me what happens if you see me. Jess won't let me watch the last two episodes without her, and her boyfriend was here this weekend, so watching "Sex and the City" wasn't her main concern. Strange how some people's priorities get so mixed up.

With that observation, I ask, should I take a stab at being Middlebury's own Carrie Bradshaw, the show's protagonist who writes a weekly sex column? In a recent episode a man told Carrie that she was his "New York survival guide." Could I be your Middlebury survival guide? It was a nice idea, but since I still get "the ranch" and "the farm" mixed up I don't think I'd be much help.

Besides, what would my grandparents think if I grew up and became a sex columnist? It's just not the kind of thing you talk about at Sunday dinner (or maybe it is the kind of thing you talk about at your family dinners, but if so the "Jerry Springer Show" might be interested in your family dynamics).

So since being a sex columnist is out and I'm not your best bet Middlebury survival guide, let's turn to relationships. I'm not very good at them (the romantic kind I mean), but what's the old adage? Those who can't, teach. That's me. So

(see Sex, page 18)

Despite Lack of Winter, Carnival a Success

By Jen LaRosa
Staff Writer

There are no classes on Friday, dinner is actually looking quite appetizing and there is a late night McCullough dance party two nights in a row.

This can only mean one thing: Winter Carnival.

Each year, Middlebury College faculty, staff and students get together to arrange a weekend filled with good food, ski races, ice shows, night clubs and a formal ball, bringing a needed dose of excitement in the doldrums of winter.

Every time a Middlebury skier raced down the mountain, the crowd went wild yelling in encouragement and banging cowbells.

This year, following the fantastical "Once Upon a Carnival" theme, the weekend kicked off with the "Be Our Guest" jamboree dinner.

There were delicious appetizers, evident from the 25-minute line, a pasta garden, a stir fry station, glazed duck and, of course, Disney character "The Beast." Coincidentally enough, Proctor Hall seemed to be serving very similar meals the next afternoon.

But make no mistake: even though the alligator did not return this year, "the dinner here," as the song goes, "is never second best."

The dinner was followed by fireworks behind the Center for the Arts and a cultural gala based on themes from "The Jungle Book."

The night ended in McCullough, with students dancing to the '80s cover band Orange Crush. Jen Nightingale '04 said that "there was such a variety of '80s songs that were very upbeat and easy to dance to.

The decorations were very colorful and there were many students dressed up in good old eighties garb!"

Ski races started the next day at 9:30 a.m. at the Snow Bowl. This year there was quite a large turnout thanks to both home team pride and the beautiful weather.

Most people milled around the finish line, but a few brave souls scaled the slippery slopes to get an even better view.

Every time a Middlebury skier raced down the mountain the crowd went wild, yelling in encouragement and banging cowbells.

A "commons afternoon" also took place from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Bicentennial Hall and on Battell Beach, but unfortunately a few of the activities had to be canceled or changed due to the lack of snow.

The "Bedtime Stories" ice show, featuring children from the local community in attire inspired by the book "Where the Wild Things Are," area students who are heavily involved in ice skating competitions and Middlebury's own multi-talented student body, was sold out Friday night.

With renditions of "Don't Worry, Be Happy" and songs by the Spice Girls, the ice show was simply warming to the heart.

The annual Night Club, hosted by Damian Washington '03 and featuring three "celebrity" judges, took place at both 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. that evening.

Performing to sold-out crowds, the Night Club showcased an impressive array of talent, featuring singing, dancing, juggling and magic.

Performing to sold-out houses, the Night Club showcased an impressive array of student talent, featuring singing, dancing, juggling and magic.

As spectators enjoyed the performances, student hosts circulated through the audience offering complimentary smoothies from The Grille, contributing to the nightclub-like atmosphere.

At the event's conclusion, the judges unanimously selected Brain Fletcher '04 as the best performer for his awe-inspiring juggling skills.

Other noteworthy performances included the vocal and piano duet of Gabe Epperson '02.5 and Maressa Perault '03, the solo strummings of solo guitarist Jason Lockhart '05 and On Tap's energetic tap dances.

A late night McCullough dance party ended that night as well. There was no theme or cover band, just some good old-fashioned college dancing.

On Saturday, the last day of Winter Carnival, ski races kicked off yet another gorgeous day. Dave Reisman '04 said that he thought that "both the men and the women skied beautifully.

She continued, "I was very impressed with the not only the racers, but also the large number of enthusiastic fans."

Students barbequed, skied and rolled down the Bowl, all in the name of the Panther ski team, which ultimately placed second behind the University of Vermont but ahead of perennial ski rival Dartmouth College.

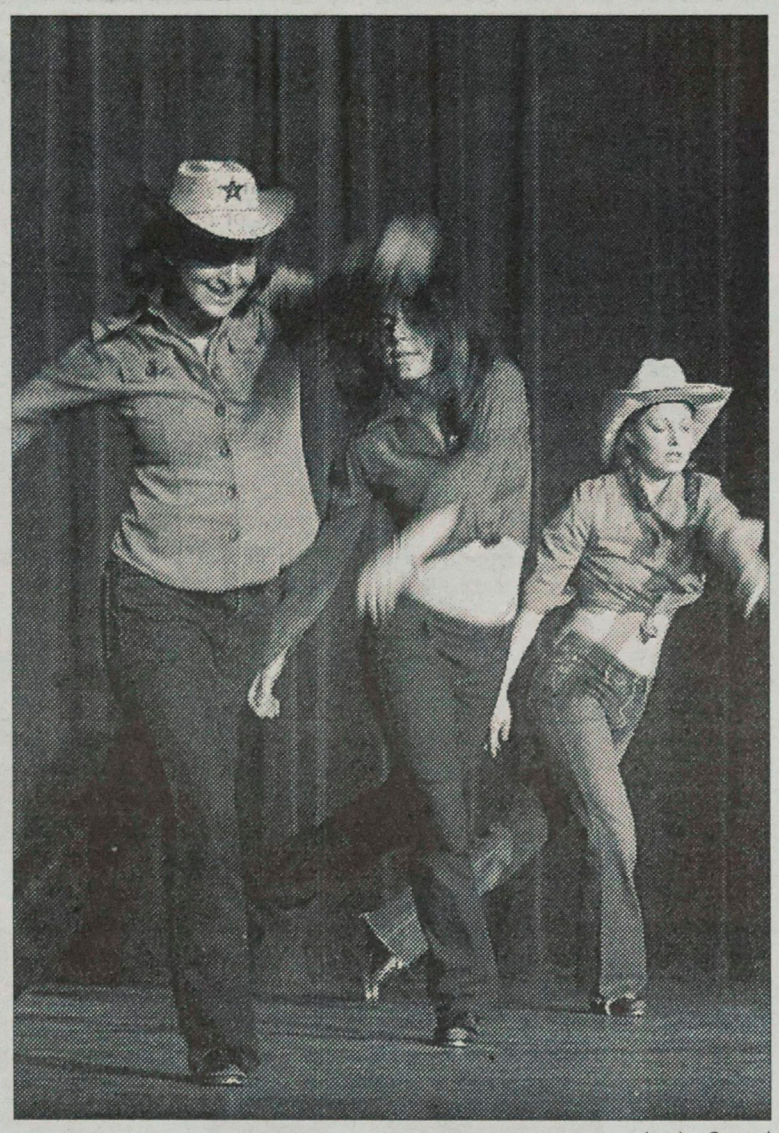
Winter Carnival concluded with the "Happily Ever After" ball. With The Marcels, a traditional cover band, providing entertainment, Nelson Arena was transformed by beautiful lighting and decorations.

A skillfully-arranged beer garden was partitioned off, accessible only to those over the age of 21.

Nightingale added that there was a "good turnout at the ball.

She continued, "Everyone who attended was very enthusiastic, which made for a genuinely good time."

Despite the lack of winter weather, Winter Carnival carried on the long-standing Middlebury tradition of a mid-February celebration in grand style.



Louisa Conrad

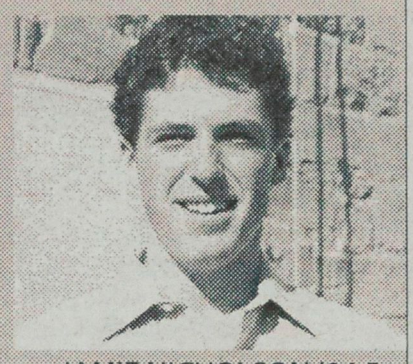
On Tap was one of many performance acts that wowed the audience at Winter Carnival's Night Club on Friday night in McCullough.

DopPeLgaNGeR of the Week

Compiled by Louisa Conrad,
Photo Editor

BOB WAINWRIGHT '03

Former Schools
Bob — Hotchkiss
Jamie — Deerfield



JAMIE NICHOLSON '04.5

First "doppelganger" encounter:

Over February break, Bob went to see a friend at the University of Virginia. This friend's fraternity brother was actually Jamie's high school roommate at Deerfield. The roommate mistook Bob for Jamie.

Ralph: Middlebury Student, Middlebury Professor

By Lindsey Whitton
Features Editor

Associate Professor of History James Ralph, despite his 12 year career, could still be mistaken for a college student himself. His youthful looks and rapport with students, however, are balanced with a first-rate intellect and a passion for the study of history.

James Ralph was born in Akron, Ohio, although he said he feels that he has "no roots in Ohio," and described himself as "truly a New Englander." He grew up in Amherst, Mass., with his three younger brothers, his father, who was a sports medicine physician for the University of Massachusetts (U-Mass.) at Amherst varsity athletic teams and also worked at the U-Mass. Health Service, and his mother, who was a nurse.

Ralph became acquainted with some very impressive athletes including basketball legend Julius Erving. He has remained a lifelong U-Mass. sports fan. "One of the themes of my life," Ralph commented, "is my love of sports."

Ralph described Amherst as "not an extremely wealthy community" but one in which the townspeople "are very well traveled and cosmopolitan. People are very active citizens who care about community, state and national politics. Town meetings are very lively — it was a great place to grow up."

He progressed through the Amherst public school system, graduating from high school in 1978. The caliber of his classmates was very impressive, Ralph asserted, since many were the children of faculty members at the three major colleges in the town, U-Mass., Amherst and Hampshire colleges. "Because there were such good students," he said, "fine teachers wanted to teach in Amherst."

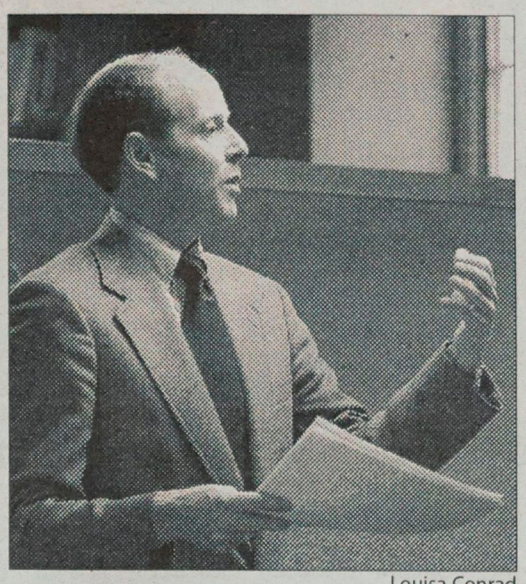
Ralph matriculated to Middlebury College, his father's alma mater, in 1978. He was a history major who also fulfilled pre-medical requirements since he was considering following his father into medicine. He was "very influenced by wonderful faculty members," many of whom he has remained close with and now works alongside, including President John McCardell and Professor of History Travis Jacobs.

Ralph also made many close friends during his years as a college student, and enjoys reconnecting with them when they return to campus.

He recently spotted a former Middlebury classmate in the back row of his lecture class, and was suddenly reminded how much fun he had had in college. Middlebury, Ralph said, provides "a reservoir of memories you can turn to for the rest of your life. Your college years are full of adventure, the broadening of horizons and the cultivation of true, lifelong friends." But also, of course, fun. "I laughed a lot," Ralph said smiling.

He was also, however, a serious student. Despite the rigors of his course selection and his history major, where grades were characteristically lower than in more quantitative majors, Ralph graduated salutatorian of the Class of 1982 and won a history prize.

"What to do next?" Ralph faced an uncertain job market, much like today's, in 1982. "The economy was struggling and there wasn't a huge breadth of opportunity for recent college graduates." He knew that he wanted to work with people and, after considering the Peace Corps, he applied with a group of his friends to teach at private schools. He was offered an internship at the Williston-Northampton School and dove right into a "sink or swim" atmosphere where he taught two United States history classes.



Louisa Conrad
Associate Professor of History James Ralph.

After the one-year position was over, he had learned how much he liked to teach, so he decided to go back to school and "get more of a grounding in U.S. history." He began at Harvard in 1983, after teaching tennis for the summer. "I'm not sure if all my professors thought that I was the studious type," Ralph confessed. "I had a very dark tan at the time!"

Again, Ralph was privileged to have "a host of wonderful professors," and he set out to "take advantage of the great array of opportunities Harvard had to offer." He went to screenings, extra lectures and every other form of academic stimulation that he had time for during his six years in Cambridge. He "tried to be part of the conversation about politics." He was awarded a doctorate in 1990.

His first job, which he was offered that fall, was a one year position at Middlebury College. "I never expected this," Ralph said. "I thought when I graduated that I'd see Middlebury again only at reunions." He has remained long after that first year and was officially tenured in 1996. "I never imagined as a college student that I would become a professor of history. I've been surprised where I've ended up in life."

At Middlebury Ralph has had the chance to offer an array of courses in American history, ranging from the sweeping surveys to upper-level classes on the civil rights movement and urban America. He even developed a course on the history of the College to coincide with the Bicentennial in order to promote awareness of Middlebury's past among students. "The Bicentennial was a great celebration and commemoration," Ralph noted. "It was a treat to work with so many creative students and members of the staff and faculty to pull off the biggest birthday party in the College's history."

As an historian, Ralph concentrated much of his original work on the civil rights struggle in the 1960s. "I needed to work on something that I found relevant and

(see Professor, page 18)

Semester at Sea: Abroad on the Ocean

By Matthew Christ
Features Editor

Middlebury, Vt., is a small place and, needless to say, we all need to escape from it once in a while. This occasional claustrophobia could help to explain the popularity of study abroad programs and even the amount of road trips taken during a four year career at Middlebury College.

One program in particular that has gained popularity in recent years is the Woods Hole Semester at Sea program (SEA). Described as "the undergraduate experience of a lifetime," the program provides college students with both adventure and course credit.

Students interested in the program are often initially worried about the experience needed for the trip. Susannah Ceraldi, the SEA admissions counselor, reassures that there are "lots of students who participate who have never sailed. Some have never even been on a motorboat or rowboat."

Another common concern is seasickness, which is usually a problem that everyone on the trip copes with together. "Almost everyone gets seasick," Ceraldi commented. "It's no walk in the park, but the crew keeps morale high until you get your sea legs."

The program begins in early fall at Boston University, the host school. In the classroom, students study oceanography, maritime studies and nautical science. There is also a certain amount of sailing knowledge necessary for the trip, so the students learn about piloting, celestial navigation and practical seamanship. Although this component of the trip seems very scientifically demanding, being a science major is not required.

Ceraldi, who also attended SEA, wants students to be aware that the program is not an academic pushover. "It was the hardest I've ever worked academically," she said. "I have never seen a large group of college kids get up at 9 a.m. on a Saturday to do work! All of the work — reading, chart plotting, writing and researching — was interesting to me. So although it was tough, it was also rewarding!"

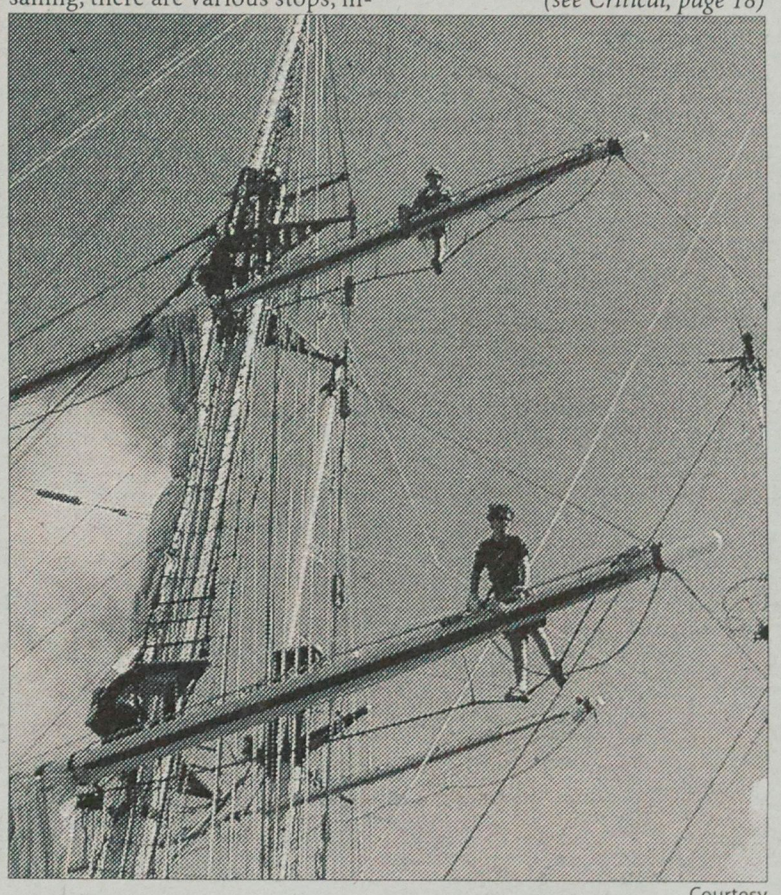
> The program ... was the best experience of my life.
>
> — Graham Furlong '02

The sailing component of the trip begins in October when the ship departs from Woods Hole, in Cape Cod, Mass. Although the trip begins in cold New England, within three weeks the weary travelers arrive in St. Croix in the Caribbean. While sailing, there are various stops, including Tahiti, Key West, Costa Rica, Alaska, Bermuda, Barbados, Cuba, the Cayman Islands and Newfoundland — not a bad way to spend the winter.

They travel in style on a 120-foot tall ship, while learning how to operate radar, radiotelephones, Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) navigation systems and depth sounders.

Although it may seem like they live the Jimmy Buffet lifestyle, the ship never docks in Margaritaville and there *is* serious work involved. An individual research project performed while on the ship is a crucial part of the ex-

(see Critical, page 18)



Courtesy
Students who want to travel abroad junior year have a plethora of options such as the Woods Hole Semester at Sea program.

The California Girl

By Megan Michelson
Local News Editor

Normally this column proudly states fact and figures about California and the West Coast that in my opinion glorify and compliment the states on the opposite side of the country. Being from California, I have been determined to make native East Coasters at Middlebury realize just what it is they are missing by suffering through these long, icy Vermont winters. However, in due time I knew I was going to have to admit that I am currently living on the East Coast, and I would eventually need to explain my reason for choosing to come to this side of the country in the first place.

Well, the answer is simple. The quality of higher education on the East Coast is far superior to that on the West Coast. Although there are obviously some exceptions, generally speaking the colleges and universities along the East Coast are more renowned, and for generations have offered elite academic experiences to students from all over the world. It has become common for students graduating from high schools on the West Coast to travel east, seeking excellence in education indicated by competitive applicant pools and low admission acceptance rates. Less frequently will students from the East feel the desire or need to go west to school, despite world famous colleges and universities scattered throughout their neighboring states.

There is a certain connotation connected with East Coast schools, one that is especially realized in the West, where there exist very few, if any, schools of the same academic caliber. The ivy-covered stone buildings, pea coat clad students and intimate class discussions set on the grassy hillsides associated with colleges in the Northeast create an environment unmatched by any college west of the Rocky Mountains. Colleges and universities in the West do not share the same history and tradition that East Coast schools established over 200 years ago. It is practically impossible for West Coast colleges to compete with the schools in the East that were founded before the state of California even accepted into the union.

It is not just the feel of colleges on the East Coast that make them seem superior; they are indeed ranked higher on the national level. According to the *U.S. News and World Report* national college rankings, in the top 30 liberal arts colleges, only three of them are located

(see California, page 18)

Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Teambuilding at Sea

(continued from page 17)
perience.

Ceraldi recalls that she studied Myctophids (lantern fish). These are definitely not goldfish. They are small fish that live deep in the ocean, but come to the surface to feed. The fish have lights on their bodies that they use to identify the gender and personal characteristics of other fish. She collected them and studied their species distribution. Obviously, this type of research opportunity is only available to Middlebury students if they participate in a trip of this nature.

Each student also has personal responsibilities pertaining to the ship care. They serve as Junior Watch Officers, which puts them in charge of the boat for two watch periods. Suddenly typical Middlebury worries are replaced with issues that affect the lives of everyone onboard.

This experience was what Ceraldi found the most harrowing. "It was intimidating because there is so much to oversee, to remember, and to decide: should we strike those sails? When should we tack? How far are we from our deployment point? Is that a squall I see on the horizon!?"

There are other experiences related to being on a tall ship that may prove difficult for the inexperienced sailor. Students often recall storms, some as bad as force 9, which brought fierce winds and water rushing across the deck.

For those afflicted with a fear of heights, going aloft on the Crow's Nest may be a frightening experience. Although this part of the program seems intimidating, the student feedback on SEA has been overwhelmingly positive. Because of the close quarters on the ship, friendships and bonds are easily made and never broken.

There are more tangible benefits to the program as well. Their official doctrine states that "the critical thinking, problem solving, team building and leadership skills you develop will pay dividends in your professional life."

The Middlebury students who have participated in the program are definetley in agreement. Graham Furlong '02 said that "the program challenged me both mentally and physically as well as introducing me to the world of the sea which I have grown to love. It was the best experience of my life."

Also, you can earn up to 17 credits through Boston University. For those of you looking for an abroad experience even more unconventional than the typical continental expedition, the Semester at Sea program offers an extremely unique opportunity with countless rewards.

California Weather Versus an Eastern Education

(continued from page 17)
in California. The top 10 include mostly NESCAC schools with similar academic reputations as Middlebury, and only one California college squeaked into the top 10. For top national universities, there are only four California universities in the top 30 and the rest are primarily located on the East Coast.

Ironically, there are more colleges and universities in California than in most of New England.

There are 90 four-year colleges or universities within the state of California while there are only 84 in Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts combined. Despite an ample selection of colleges in California, however, few of them are up to par academically with those in the Northeast.

All right, so I have confessed that the East Coast is definitely superior in regards to the quality of its educational institutions.

However, who can deny that it would not be great to attend a college right near the beach in sunny Southern California?

Granted, the academic standards may be slightly inferior, but imagine replacing all of those snow boots with flip-flop sandals, throwing out the winter coats in exchange for bathing suits, and swapping ski goggles with sunglasses. We would be able to study under natural sunlight on white sandy beaches — if even studying at all — as opposed to under the flickering florescent bulbs of the old stone library. We would drink fresh fruit smoothies strolling under palm trees, in contrast with sipping hot chocolate while hustling from one building to the next.

All this could be true, if only Middlebury were in California.

Ralph Enriched by Love for Civil Rights and Sports

(continued from page 17)
there is nothing more relevant than the greatest domestic drama of the century — the civil rights movement."

After all his work, Ralph is optimistic about improving race relations, mostly because of the proactive, nonviolent work of many brave activists. "I believe what I am doing is important," he said. "My life has been enriched by my conversations with civil rights activists. I've just been a chronicler of their stories — they are some of America's greatest patriots."

His book, "Northern Protest: Martin Luther King, Jr., Chicago and the Civil Rights Movement" was published by Harvard University Press in 1993, and he is currently working on a book-length manuscript about the civil rights movement in Peoria, Ill. He "wanted to flesh out the struggle in a representative small northern city."

Even though he never could have anticipated his current occupation, Ralph is doing what he always wanted to do — work with people and travel. "I get to go meet interesting people, and I get to talk with them," he said. Last year, when he was on leave, Ralph went to 25 states and was reminded of the diversity of custom, food, language, geography and opinion across the country. "I was ultimately reminded how lucky I am to be a historian of the United States. There are un-

Sex and the Country, Dancing Dateless

(continued from page 16)
with that glowing endorsement, here goes.

I'm sure that more than one of you reading this (if more than one of you is reading this) was dateless at the ball. I was dateless, and a good number of my friends were dateless as well. We proud single women donned our dashing dresses, primped our hair, put on our most uncomfortable shoes and headed off to the ball in hopes of meeting the handsome prince.

On a side note — one of my friends was offered a glass (okay, plastic) slipper by an intoxicated underclassmen toward the end of the night — surprisingly, the shoe did not fit.

Back to my subject. I was dateless, but I still managed to have a fabulous time. And let me tell you, there were some things that could have gotten me down — I was (and still am) recovering from the flu and I fell in my previously mentioned uncomfortable (and by the way slippery) shoes on the ice on the way to my car to drive to dinner.

We dined elegantly at Mister Up's downtown, pre-partied a bit and then headed down to Nelson Arena to dance the night away. I will admit to escaping to the bathroom during a rare slow song and making some mean faces at some very cute, very happy, perfectly harmless couples. But what do you want from me? I am human, after all.

So for you ladies out there (and I think this goes for guys too) who've kissed what feels like more than your fair share of frogs, your handsome prince will come.

For some reason your prince (as well as mine) has decided to take the scenic route with the help of an old slow horse and a poorly marked map. But don't worry, he's just slow. And he hasn't forgotten about you.

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Budding Spring

Louisa Conrad

Responding to the early onset of spring in recent days, *trees around campus have been budding prematurely, like this willow that frames Mead Chapel.*

'Julius Caesar' Adapted for Modern Audience

By Laura Rockefeller
Arts Editor

During last weekend's Winter Carnival festivities, a show playing in the Hepburn Zoo served as a subtle reminder of the turmoil that continues in the world outside of Middlebury College.

The 20-minute dance piece "IVLIVS," directed by Nick Vail '02, adapted from and inspired by Shakespeare's play "Julius Caesar," was presented in two evening performances on Thursday and Friday and a Saturday matinee. The production told the familiar story of Caesar's betrayal in a way that highlighted its relevance for modern audiences.

Vail explained that he wanted to show how the story of Caesar "is not just a piece of history. We are dealing with some of the same political issues today." The story was told without words, using dance, stripped down set pieces and recorded television clips.

The production opened as the haunting strains of Mozart's "Requiem" filled the darkened theater, instantly suggesting that something great yet foreboding was to come.

Vail explained that he had struggled to figure out "what archetypal, classic music would go with this archetypal, classic play" and would allow him to create the appropriate images for his dancers.

The movements of "Requiem" fit this story perfectly, especially the magnificent "Sanctus" under Octavius' self-coronation. The poignant "Agnus Dei" proved a fitting choice for Anthony's discovery of Caesar's death.

There was a great contrast between these royal scenes and those involving the private counsels of Brutus and Cassius, underscored by songs from the contemporary band Radiohead.

The quick transitions from Mozart to the more jarring music was particularly effective in the scene where Brutus, played by Venessa Wong '04, was alone facing the prospect of

(see Nick Vail, page 21)

Carnival's Cultural Gala: Flashes of African Lore

By Abbie Beane
Staff Writer

Last week's Winter Carnival kickoff event brimmed with fairy tales, juicy cuts of meat, tall cakes, African lore and fiery dancing.

As a prelude to the various festivities of the Cultural Arts Gala, held in the Center for the Arts (CFA) on Feb. 21, many Middlebury College students, faculty and staff attended the annual Winter Carnival dinner in Nelson Arena.

This year's theme, "Beauty and the Beast," a tribute to the Disney movie classic, boasted everything from roast beef to towers of cakes piled with fluffy layers of pink icing, all victims of the ravenous mouths of 2,500 insatiable college students.

Strings of lights hung like a luminous overhead jungle, and below proud animal sculptures arched their backs on the tables while workers dressed as characters from Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" walked about in costume.

Students gorged on tasty meats with their bare hands as a result of the ineffective plastic utensils. "I feel like a nomad," Matt Coons '04 said, picking up a slab of beef with his fingers. Eating selections of meat from "the beast" section of the dining event as well as feeling like primordial characters ourselves added to the amusement of the grand charade.

Immediately following this culinary experience, Lisa Sammet, a self-described "tale singer," provided one of the numerous performances held that evening as part of the Winter Carnival Cultural Arts Gala, which incorporated music and creative dramatics.

Entertaining a crowd of moderate size in the CFA Concert Hall, Sammet began with a piece playing the kalimba, a South African instrument made of various bits and pieces such as boards, boxes and hairclips.

In celebration of Black History Month and her own experiences in Africa, she wore a colored mask and a blue and white outfit called a bubu, the traditional garment worn by men in the Ivory Coast.

Sammet explained that she had taught English as a foreign language for two years as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Ivory Coast. She also served as a recruiter for the Peace Corps for two years in the United States.

Her performance, a tribute to her time in Africa, blended songs and chants from the Ivory Coast, classical African stories and frequent explanations of her African souvenirs, which still enchant her.

Among her stage decorations was a blue shirt, made with the dye of an indigo plant and fabric made of a flax plant, which was traced with a design in goat dung. Her most prized instruments included the calabash, a large African gourd often used as a tambourine and the balaphon, a type of West African xylophone made of wood.

Fighting a disruptive and restless crowd crawling with small children and parents trying to subdue them, Sammet sang a few songs and encouraged the audience to chant along with her.

One particular tune, which she learned from the children of the Ivory Coast after starting a music club there, was "Everybody Loves

(see Carnival, page 22)

John Scofield Shifts to New Musical Style

By Kate DeForest
Staff Writer

John Scofield has been an innovator throughout his career. As one who has played with some of the best jazz performers of the last century, performers noted for their inventiveness and eclecticism, Scofield has deeply rooted musical references and a densely packed library of song from which he borrows and adapts. At his latest stopover at the Higher Ground in Winooski, Vt., last Thursday, however, he seemed to have strayed from his former path, moving from experiment to novelty and novelty to gimmick in what amounted to be a less than impressive stage show.

Scofield strayed from the path on which he was formerly traveling, moving from experiment to novelty and novelty to gimmick in what amounted to be a less than impressive stage show.

Scofield's latest album, Uberjam (Verve 2002), represents a divergence from his more straightforward progressive jazz beginnings (he toured with Miles Davis for over three years in the early 1980s, and before that had played with Charles Mingus, Herbie Hancock and Chick Corea, among others).

Scofield has settled on a style that could be called "rock-jazz." Scofield's evolution towards this style is evident in his work with Medeski, Martin and Wood (MMW). His earlier albums have shown a tendency towards soul, funk and rock, but have always been held together by their underlying jazz foundation.

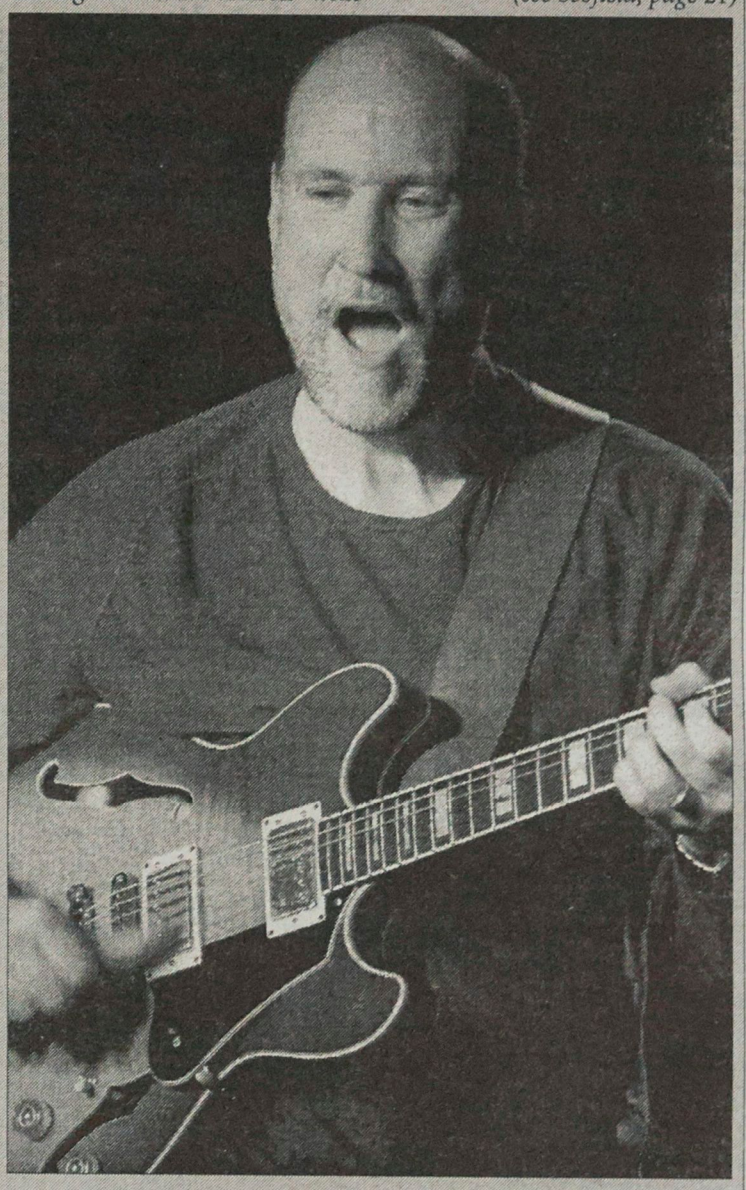
Uberjam, while it has its moments (here I think of Avi Bortnick's sweetly melodic, slow-moving tune "Tomorrowland"), is for the most part extremely repetitive, and it wears on the listener's patience. Now touring to support the album, the live show was accordingly comparable with the album in quality and interest.

Scofield's touring band, including Bortnick on rhythm guitar, Jesse Murphy on bass, Adam Deitch on drums and Scofield on lead guitar, is composed of some very talented musicians. They played well together and seemed comfortable letting Scofield take — and keep — center stage.

However, having the rest of the band so much in the background caused the solos to seem placed and unnatural. One bass solo in particular seemed more as if everyone else had simply stopped playing, rather than focusing the spotlight on Murphy.

I can't help but wonder if the new album was a reaction to popular demand. Scofield seems to have gone much more commercial, as if he were not satisfied with the niche he had carved out for himself in high quality, heavily jazz-influenced music. Last year's tour, which stopped over at Johnson State College, north of Burlington, was composed mainly of the sort of songs Scofield had been playing on Works for Me (Verve 2001), A Go Go (Verve 1997) and Bump (Verve 1999). However, the audience seemed to want the type of "funk-rock" he had delved into during his collaboration with MMW. He explained to the audience then that he wasn't playing that type of music on that particular tour, but it seemed as though he has since rescinded his state-

(see Scofield, page 21)



Bryan McQuade

Jazz performer John Scofield presented a new "rock-jazz" style last Thursday in his latest concert at Higher Ground in Winooski, Vt.

Art In The Big Apple

By Elizabeth Logue
Staff Writer

As a classically trained ballet dancer, admittedly I've had a longstanding rivalry with the institution of figure skating. While I've never skated myself, I've spent my life defending ballerinas because they are, in my view, as much athletes as figure skaters. Both require stamina, strength, flexibility, grace and artistry — only ballerinas do it on their toes. Despite this, it is not my intention in this week's column to argue the superiority of ballet.

In watching the Olympic figure skating competition last Thursday evening, two things struck me: firstly, that there was an inordinate amount of clumsiness, and secondly, that the skaters skated half-heartedly. Throughout the evening I was shouting at the television set, much to the dismay of those with whom I was watching, as skater after skater fumbled. "Come on! You could have held on to that," I said. "You gave in too easily!"

In the back of my mind, I was thinking that it was this sort of clumsiness in ice dancing that had led me to prefer ballet: ballerinas rehearse a piece, perform it and only in rare instances will they fumble noticeably on stage. One after another, however, the skaters slipped and fell all over the ice — sometimes several times during the program. I was bordering on disgust by the time Irina Slutskaya, the silver medalist and last to skate, took the ice. The only thoroughly polished performance was from 16-year-old Sarah Hughes. I felt gypped that so many skaters had fallen; had they not rehearsed? Could they be unaware that this was the Olympic Games? Could they excuse their poor performance with, "This just wasn't my night," as Michelle Kwan had remarked after finishing with a bronze? Why wasn't it their night?

Coincidentally, the following evening I saw my first and only performance of the New York City Ballet's Winter Season. The repertoire was so-so; George Balanchine's "Walpurgisnacht Ballet" opened, followed by Richard Tanner's "Ancient Airs and Dances," with Jerome Robbins' "Fancy Free" closing the evening. I sensed the average performance just by eyeing the program, which included mostly *corps de ballet* members in principal roles.

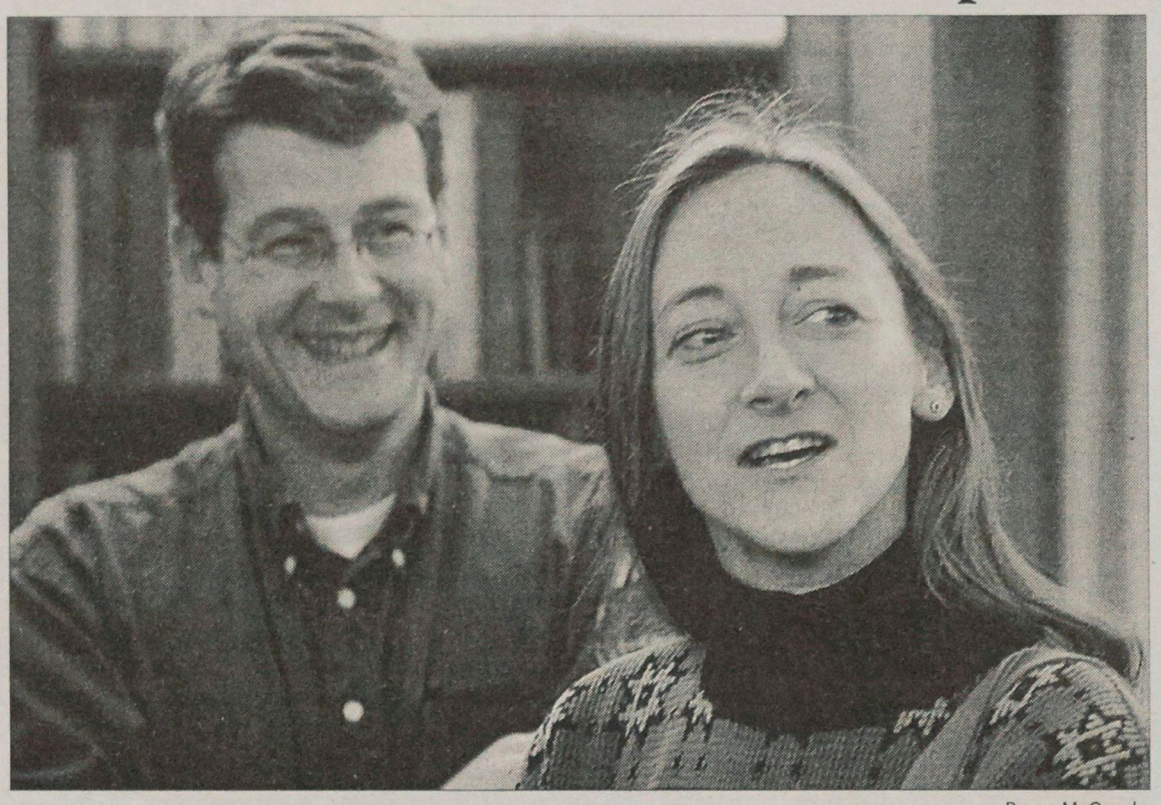
Still, I was relieved that I was seeing New York City Ballet, unarguably (at least by me) the best company in the world. Here, I thought, I would not need to worry about an unpolished performance or bumbling dancers. Here, I could relish the long rehearsal hours that went into the final product — one of perfection, at least from the audience's perspective.

I stood corrected about half

(see Ballet, page 23)

Faculty Authors Honored at Annual Reception

By Kate Prouty
Arts Editor



Bryan McQuade

Associate Archivist Mike Knapp laughs as Assistant Professor of Chinese Carrie Reed explains that there is no entirely accurate Chinese translation for the title of her book, "Chinese Chronicles of the Strange: The Nuogao ji."

Unable to find a literary quotation more appropriate for the occasion, Dean of the Faculty Robert Schine wittily welcomed those in attendance at the Faculty Authors Reception with Eccliastes's fateful promise: "Of making many books there is no end." Faculty authors who were present at the reception, held in the Abernethy Room on Feb. 21, laughed out loud, knowing all too well the fundamental truth of this passage.

The annual reception has honored the scholarly and creative work of Middlebury College's faculty authors for the past 16 years. In that time, 273 faculty members, the majority of whom hail from the English Department, have been recognized for their literary achievements outside of the classroom. The 22 books selected for this year's reception, each accompanied by an explanatory paragraph written by its author, will be displayed in an exhibit set up by Special Collections Assistant Danielle Rougeau in the main lobby of Starr Library through the end of March.

Although this reception generously gives the entire College community an opportunity to publicly recognize and praise its faculty authors' literary efforts, the majority of people at the reception were the authors themselves.

The annual reception has honored the scholarly and creative work of 273 of Middlebury College's faculty authors over the past 16 years, the majority of whom hail from the English Department.

Perhaps due to lack of advertising — only faculty were sent invitations — not one student climbed the stairs to the Abernethy Room to acknowledge the achievements of the faculty. This lack of student presence speaks to the lack of awareness, or perhaps even appreciation, students have for their faculty as authors, scholars or simply as thinkers outside of the classroom. Receptions like this one give students the rare opportunity to think about their faculty as more than classroom professors.

Regardless, the somewhat homogeneous group seemed pleased to be in each other's company as they circulated through the room, happily conversing about academic and personal subjects. Soon Schine offered a toast to the group and asked each author who was present to introduce himself, state the title of his book and offer just one sentence about his work. Schine then astutely admitted that a one-sentence restriction would be impossible for academics with such vast vocabularies to obey.

Nonetheless, the authors proceeded to do their best to briefly, yet accurately, convey the main message of their books. They did so in a lighthearted yet serious tone. While appreciating the chance to present what was probably years of effort finally printed into a volume of words, they jokingly teased each other. Suggestions as to who would star, were it a film, in College Professor Emeritus of History Nicholas R. Clifford's, "Reflections on the Bicentennial" were made when he introduced his book. Matt Damon or perhaps Arnold Schwarzenegger were proposed in jest.

Congruent with the College's strong commitment to the study of foreign languages, the collection of work presented this year included a noticeably high percentage of translations and foreign language books in Chinese, Finnish, French, Russian and Spanish.

There were two Middlebury College-specific volumes, both focusing on the Bicentennial: Clifford's "Reflections of the Bicentennial" and Fletcher D. Proctor Professor of American History Travis Beal Jacobs's "General Catalogue of Middlebury College." In addition to these scholarly works, Writer-in-Residence Julia Alvarez contributed a children's book, "How Tía Lola Came to Stay."

The paragraph that accompanied Alvarez's book in the display case stated that this book for young readers is "about a Latin family who comes to live in a

(see Faculty, page 23)

'Frog Run' Reminds Us Not to Rush

By Jen Marlow
Staff Writer

Stewart Professor of English and Environmental Studies John Elder's book "The Frog Run: Words and Wildness in the Vermont Woods" is a memoir set in a wooded and storied landscape. Specifically, Elder's work is an autobiographical account of learning to sugar with his family in the Vermont woods. The work exemplifies the genre of nature writing, which aims to give voice to the human experience of the natural world. As a practice, nature writing is often autobiographical — the experience of observing and writing in nature often leads to an unexpected self-awareness.

The seasons, particularly winter and spring, set the rhythm of his words. Patient as a bud in winter, his words describe the history of sugaring as the Yankee farmers learned it from the Abenaki people. The rhythm then quickens to flow as generously as the sap does with the arrival of spring, allowing the reader to linger in the sweetness of the season. Elder writes: "Weeks pass when winter has lost its grip but nothing new has taken its place. Watching the temperatures' courtly dance around the freezing line suddenly becomes exciting, however, when maple syrup is the culmination. Amid the half-frozen, half-sodden fields and the late snowstorms, the pulse of sap turns us towards the present's wavering shore."

Elder, calling forth a sense of the moment, reminds us not to rush. His words highlight the excitement of spring: "Not only does sugaring help us remember that spring is coming, it also gives us a reason for desiring that it not progress any faster. Once we have awakened to it, we long to dwell in this protracted in-between. This time for standing in the warm, sticky sugarhouse, witnessing the alchemy of air and water into gold."

Witness to the dynamic pulses of nature, Elder's writing is a wonderful example of nature's ability to be magical and wild, and yet masterfully in control.

"The Frog Run" shares a sense of memoir and story with his last book, "Reading the Mountains of Home," which retraces the impression of human history on a rewilding, reforesting New England landscape. Robert Frost's poem "Directive" walks Elder through his backyard wilderness and guides him in a process of seeing, showing and telling.

Hiking around the wilderness of Bristol, Vt., Elder "hikes the poem" and finds its meaning in the land.

Similar to using Frost's poem as a guide to the land, in "The Frog Run" Elder seeks the guidance of local sugarers and his own sugarbush in Starksboro, Vt., to teach him about the working landscape. As a reader, writer, teacher and adopted Vermonter, Elder has sought guidance from the dynamic history and landscape of the state of Vermont and serves as a witness for nature's changing graces.

As a long-time advocate of wilderness conservation, John Elder's vision for wilderness comes to fruition in "The Frog Run." He uses what he has learned from the human and natural history of Vermont to defend sustainable land practices.

Whether traveling back a few thousand years to the discovery of maple sugar, twenty-seven years to when he began teaching at Middlebury College, or just a few seasons, "The Frog Run" is a dynamic narrative in which Elder has a good sense of his own self-evolution. His religious teachings and family life are all presented in an evolutionary perspective. Elder's thinking about wilderness is mature.

As a dedicated advocate of wilderness conservation, Elder's vision for wilderness comes to fruition in "The Frog Run." Elder uses what he has learned from the human and natural history of Vermont to defend sustainable land practices, writing, "The most beautiful and motivating vision is an inclusive community of life, not wilderness apart from that."

Elder's sugarbush represents his commitment to wilderness and sustainability in Vermont, but it also serves to deepen his family's commitment to home. As Elder's homeland changes, whether it be marked by his move to Vermont from California, or by winter turning to spring in the sugarbush, Elder gains perspective on himself in a similar process of evolution. And, by reading his literature, so do his readers.

Scofield Slips Up Trying to Sample

(continued from page 19)

ment, catering to the type of audience who wanted to dance more than to listen.

Thankfully, he played some old crowd pleasers like "She's So Lucky" and "Jeep On 35." Although he must have been tempted to gloss over it — having played the song for so long and so often — he nonetheless offered up an energetic and sustained rendition of "Boozer."

The most glaring departure from his past style was the use of sampling, both on stage and throughout the album.

When it works, sampling can add dimension and bring the listener a greater awareness of the structure of a piece, a musical version of collage. Repetition of themes and phrases can be reinforced, and a song can be given character unique to sampling. However, the sampling Scofield tried was the musical equivalent of taking a magazine cut-out of Pamela Anderson and sticking it into a Van Gogh landscape: sure it was flashy and conspicuous, but it also didn't benefit the music. It just obscured the view.

One of the logistical problems created by the on-stage sampling was that both Bortnick and Murphy alternately took control of the samples (Bortnick mainly), which symptomatically diverted their attention from their own instruments.

When your rhythm guitar is sampling, the music tends to sag a bit, having lost a third of its support. The sampling had a gimmicky effect and undermined the quality of the melody.

Hopefully, with his next effort, Scofield will trade novelty for quality and focus more on the strength of his talent than the retail value of his trade.

Nick Vail Links Past to Present in Play 'Ivlivs'

(continued from page 19)

murdering a man he had always admired. Vail explained that he was inspired by the music because it created a, "beautiful background ambiance." It brought out the conflict raging in Brutus' mind.

Vail explained that he had been motivated to create this piece after the events of Sept. 11, when he felt the need to do something about the chaos that he saw around him. He began to question how he, a young American about to graduate from a Northeastern liberal arts college, could make a difference in the world.

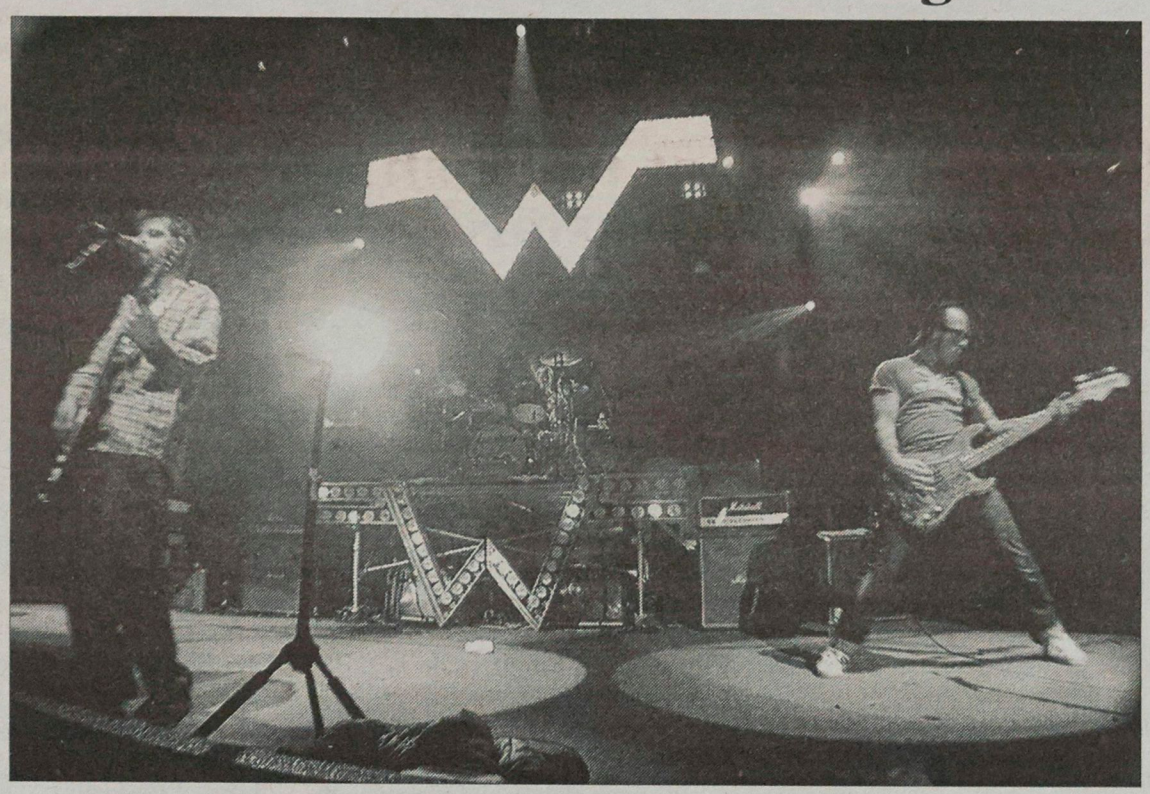
It was then that he thought back to the ideas of political theater he had been introduced to while working on the collage piece "Untitled: The Sounds of Unheard Voices" last spring.

Vail realized that "theater can really influence people's way of thinking," and it was this idea that inspired the last segment of his play. The final scene was a dance between Caesar and the conspirators with television clips from CNN of President George W. Bush and the war in Afghanistan playing in the background.

The piece was especially interesting because the play allowed individuals in the audience to come up with their own ideas about the connection between the two.

Although the lack of words may have made the piece somewhat difficult to follow for those unfamiliar with the story, it was certainly a thought-provoking experience.

Weezer Reunites With Waiting Fans



Courtesy

Weezer, now back in the spotlight, returned to devoted fans in Albany, N.Y., on their North American tour.

By Andrew Zrike and Bryan McQuade
Staff Writers

Two years ago Weezer, the hugely successful California-based rock band of the early 1990s, had completely disappeared from the charts. The band had not released an album since their 1996 commercially disastrous album "Pinkerton," and following frontman Rivers Cuomo's decision to enroll at Harvard University in 1997, the band had ceased touring altogether. With a widely popular debut album followed by a lackluster sophomore release, Weezer appeared to be just another pop fad, destined to fade and be forgotten.

However, in the years following their hiatus, an underground subculture of Weezer fans continued to support the band. The simple, poppy melodies and thick, distorted guitar sounds have drawn some fans in, while others have been attracted by the self-deprecating, ironic and often emotional lyrics penned by the enigmatic and mysterious Cuomo. Much to their delight, Weezer is back on the scene.

Reuniting for a few small shows in the late '90s, the band met raucous crowds ready to take in "anything Weezer." Since that time, the band's career has been a one-way ride to the top of the rock world.

Reuniting for a few small shows in the late '90s, the band met raucous crowds ready to take in "anything Weezer." Since that time, the band's career has been a one-way ride to the top of the rock world. A highly acclaimed third album coupled with well-received live performances has allowed Weezer to eclipse the success of their debut album. The band's success culminated with this winter's tour of arenas — venues for which the band's sound has always been perfect.

Like most stops on Weezer's strangely titled Hyper Extended Midget North American Tour, the band was met with a packed house of excited Weezer fans in Albany, N.Y., on Feb. 17. With an over-the-top stage production, including the now ubiquitous Van Halen-esque illuminated W hovering over the band, those in attendance were treated to a visually and musically memorable show. Fans varied from the older crowd who had grown up

(see Weezer, page 23)

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SPECIAL EVENTS

Wed., February 27, 4:30, Sunderland, ILC 1
Hands-on resume and cover letter workshop
- Create and perfect your resume and cover letter with CSO

Wed., February 27, 6:00, BiHall 220
The Jackson Laboratory
- Information session: a unique nonprofit institution, leadin the genetics revolution that is transforming medicine

Thurs., February 28, 5:00, Dana, Auditorium
Tapping the Hidden Job Market
- Learn imaginative, effective ways to approach employers!
- Snacks and drinks provided

Fri., March 1, 10:00-2:00, Proctor, Woodstove Lounge
Fri., March 1, 7:30, BiHall 104
Farm and Wilderness Summer Camps
- Love children of all ages and want some fun?
- Rich in adventure, community, history, spirit and all six camps are rooted in the Quaker understanding of respect

Fri., March 1, 1:00-4:00, Philadelphia, PA, Haverford College, Founder's Hall
Not-for-Profit Networking Fair in Philadelphia
- Don't forget your college I.D. and extra resumes!
- Do get your resume critiqued by CSO staff before you lea
- http://www.haverford.edu/cdo/s&a/events/nfpinphila.htm

Fri., March 1, 5:00, BiHall 220
Association for International Practical Training
- Information session: AIPT creates the ultimate global training and cultural exchange experience
- 50,000 AIPT alumni are now visible leaders in their industries, professional fields, and communities

Mon., March 4, 10:00-2:00, Proctor, Woodstove Lounge
Mon., March 4, 5:00, BiHall 220
Denver Publishing Institute
- Information session: learn about this intensive, full-time, four-week, graduate-level course

Mon., March 4, 2:00, Adirondack, CSO Library
Spring Senior Meeting
- A must for 2002 Seniors wishing to participate in spring recruiting who have been unable to attend previously

Mon., March 4, 2:30, Adirondack, CSO Library
Career Skills Workshop
- A must for 2002 Seniors wishing to participate in recruitir
- All students welcomed and encouraged to attend

Tues., March 5, 3:00, Sunderland, ILC 3
MoJo Hands-on Technical Training Workshop
- Need to download your resume onto MoJo?
- Can't find the contact information or job description?
- We can help you!

Tues., March 5, 4:30, Sunderland, ILC 2
Hands-on Internship Workshop
- Learn where to find summer opportunities

HOT INTERNSHIPS

FINANCE/BANKING
David N. Deutsch, NYC
- **Attention juniors:** is your interest in investment bankin
- Learn how to analyze business, financial, and market information
- A huge networking opportunity and a paid summer positi

GOVERNMENT
Century Institute Summer Program, NYC
- An exciting 2 week summer fellowship
- Meet with prominent scholars, policy experts, and activist to discuss the social and political challenges facing Americ
- Paid internship

~ See InternCenter for details ~

WEBSITE OF THE WEEK

Planning your way to science and engineerin graduate schools?

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THE CAMPUS NEEDS YOU!!!

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Contact Arts Editors Kate Prouty (ext. 6896) or Laura Rockefeller (ext. 7131)

Lyon Photos Chronicle Civil Rights Protest

By Yvonne Chen
Staff Writer

Now on display at the Middlebury College Museum of Art, Danny Lyon's photographs document the telling times as well as the human struggle that lie hidden beneath the politics of racial oppression. The exhibition consists of nine images from the photographer's Southern Civil Rights Portfolio.

From 1962 to 1964 the then 20-year-old Lyon served as the first staff photographer for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), a national group of students who joined together after four African American college students staged the first sit-in at a North Carolina lunch counter.

The SNCC was a group that sought political institutions through which they could relate to all of society. Otherwise, said leader Courtland Cox, communities would continue to exist in a constant state of insurrection.

The SNCC's busloads of college students, both black and white, rode into the South to promote the legality of the Supreme Court's decision on Brown v. Board of Education, which mandated desegregation.

Determined yet uncertain that their actions might bring about true change in a deeply segregated South, the protesters endured much pain and showed courage in difficult times. Today the end of segregation in the South and the enfranchisement of black Americans serve as testament to their efforts.

The photography collection consists of some of the most representative images of the movement. Lyon took shots of sit-ins, voter registrations, marches and jailings

Black and white are distilled in a frozen moment of contained tension as a group of black people stands patiently as one of them speaks to a group of white people who have converted a public swimming pool into a private segregated one.

Lyon captures the spirit of the nonviolent movement, for example, in a photo taken of the March on Washington: two black men are protesting as one man outstretches a potent fist to the air and the man beside him screams, with a contorted expression that suggests a battle cry. The photograph was later given the slogan "Now," thereby implying the need for immediate social change and nonviolent protest.

A photograph of movement leader John Lewis kneeling in prayer beside a young girl was used for a poster with text reading, "Come let us build a new world together." The photograph told of the need for unification and volunteerism among all veins of black society.

Along with many of Lyon's photographs, these images were later made into thousands of publicity posters and fundraising brochures for SNCC.

A simple yet startling image of a high school student, Taylor Washington, screaming as an armed officer restrains him by the neck was dubbed "The Movement Documentary of a Struggle for Equality." It also served as the cover of SNCC's "The Movement" brochure and in the former USSR it was used as propaganda entitled "Police Brutality USA."

"I regard both film and photography as great forms of realism. It is life that attracts me to them for both are forms that deal directly with life in a way that was not possible before their invention. In addition, there seems to be something fundamentally democratic about photography and realistic film making."
—Photographer Danny Lyon

Other photographs depict the stark reality of segregation in the South.

Black and white are distilled in a frozen moment of contained tension as a group of black people stands patiently as one of them speaks to a group of white people who have converted a public swimming pool into a private segregated one. We see the inequality of Jim Crow laws in the large water fountain reading "White," with a smaller and more distant one labeled "Colored."

Troubling as these images may be, some of the more poignant images lie in the remaining photographs in Lyon's portfolio.

In one of Lyon's photographs riot cops equipped with gas masks and rubber pellet guns pull at one protester's shirt as he lies suspended in midair, pulled in multiple directions by the officers.

Another photograph depicts a group of police officers sneering into the camera with abasing gestures as ministers for the National County of Churches march to a local church.

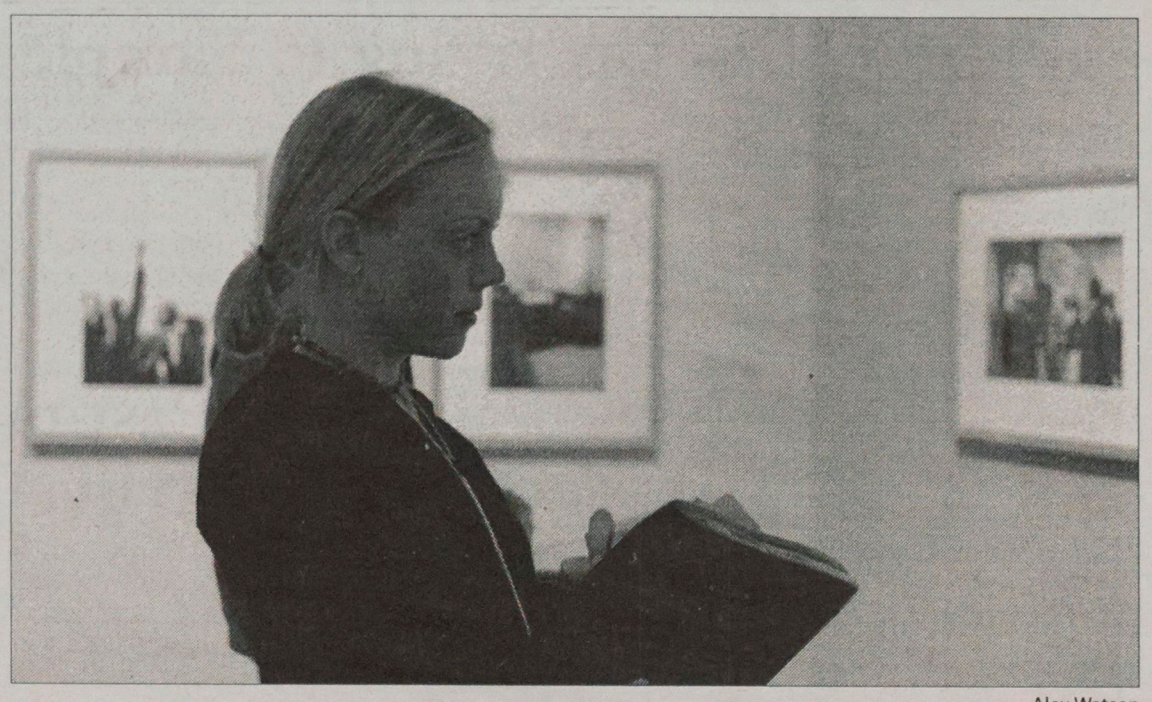
From a man who was repeatedly arrested for documenting history, Lyon said of his work in a 1983 interview: "I regard both film and photography as great forms of realism. It is life that attracts me to them for both are forms that deal directly with life in a way that was not possible before their invention. In addition, there seems to be something fundamentally democratic about photography and realistic filmmaking."

The democratic quality of Lyon's photography is evident. The journalistic images allow viewers to attend to the utter simplicity of racism.

Lyon zooms into the area of primary action — into the faces and emotions of the people involved. He emphasizing their significance by using thoughtful negative space and strong verticals.

Lyon's art leaves us with the necessary legroom to examine a simple matter of human nature, hatred, and its remedy: non-violent protest.

In sum, the images stand not only as thoughtful pieces of art but also to a new generation as an important reflection of a poignant turning point in one of many episodes in the United States' turbulent — and sometimes hypocritical — history.



Alex Watson

Erika Holsman '04 takes careful observations at the exhibition of Danny Lyon's photographs at the CFA.

Carnival Cultural Gala Hotter Than Mustard

(continued from page 19)

Saturday Night," composed of verses in English, French, Spanish, German and Portuguese, typifing the multilingual nation.

A man in the audience was quick to inform Sammet that the song was originally written in Bantu, a language of central and southern Africa. He left soon after this remark, though Sammet thanked him profusely for the knowledge he shared.

At the close of this extremely informal and interactive performance, Sammet graciously invited the audience to speak with her about her experiences and investigate her instruments.

At the same time, on the lower floor of the CFA, crimson waves of energy resonated off of the granite walls and wafted enticingly up to the second floor. It was Jeh Kula, an African Dance Troupe from Burlington, Vt., with a few members originally from Senegal and Guinea, who offered an amazing performance and instructional dance workshop.

The room barely afforded enough space to the electrically charged scores of people, who were dancing intensely in their bare feet. They were all captives of the infectious beats of the Ganba and Samba, the two types of drums used by Jeh Kula. It was difficult to believe that such an intricate sound could be born of only two instruments.

The room barely afforded enough space to the electrically charged scores of people, who were dancing intensely in their bare feet.

Walking in midway through the instructional dance workshop was analogous to entering someone's bedroom and catching them dancing wildly in their underwear, inspired by the freedom of their privacy.

It was as if their bodies were mere vessels of their spirits, bending and twisting in ways only possible after shedding the shell of social inhibition. The crowd clapped incessantly, laughing and smiling and gasping for breath despite the fact that they were sitting still.

The leader of the troupe, a man cloaked in shiny, tan African dress, then arranged the group into a circle and gave one person a piece of cloth — requiring that he dance for a minute inside the ring before passing the cloth to someone else.

It was refreshing to see the people find such release in their unrestricted movements, fully submissive to the intensity of the music and their own passions.

The atmosphere reeked of adrenaline and endorphins as the Troupe enticed the audience to expose their true nature to the public.

Later, a few of the professional dancers put on a choreographed performance to the beats of the Samba and the Ganba as well. The drums were played by four people in Jeh Kula towards the back of the stage.

With the powerful waves of energy carrying the audience through to the last beat, it would have been impossible to fall asleep. And if the hot mustard at the dinner did not penetrate your skin, this heated unveiling of the confident performer behind the mask of the everyday man could surely meet that challenge.

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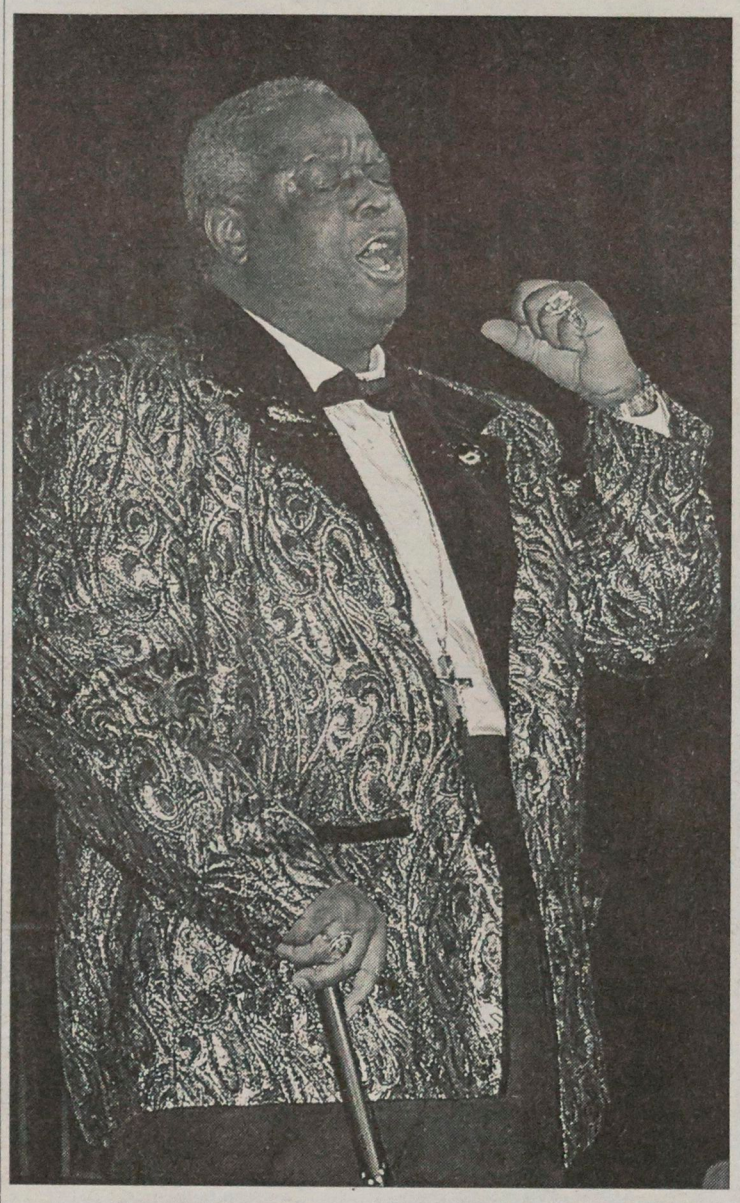
Double Dose of Gospel at the Flynn



File Photo/Louisa Conrad

The Flynn Center in Burlington, Vt., gets a double dose of great blues and gospel music when, *with live samples of music, Twilight Artist-in-Residence Francois Clemmons spices up his lecture, tracing the roots of gospel music from its origination in American Negro Spirituals. His lecture accompanied performances by guitarist and blues singer John Hammond as well as gospel singing group The Blind Boys of Alabama.*

Weezer Takes Riled-Up Crowd 'To School'

(continued from page 21)

listening to classic Weezer songs including "Buddy Holly," "Undone (The Sweater Song)" and "Say It Ain't So," to a younger crowd drawn by the recent radio play of the Green Album. The Abercrombie-clad younger crowd included one girl whose flailing, cigarette-wielding arm nearly scorched the eye of a nearby fan. Nonetheless, as the band took the stage, young and old alike focused their energy on the music.

A packed floor of Weezer fans jumped, danced and moshed throughout the show. Crowd-surfing their way to the front of the venue, fans toppled over the stage barricade, only to go running to the back of the crowd to start over again. As the show progressed, riled fans managed to pry the floorboards off the ice of the arena, holding them above the crowd to surf on. Fortunately, no one was injured, though one surfing fan decided to somersault into the crowd, no doubt to the displeasure of those he landed on.

Although lead singer and guitarist Cuomo sported a Gibson guitar instead of his usual Fender, his signature crunching guitar distortion remained intact. His switching guitars after the opener suggested a song from the Blue Album was up next; the audience was treated to "In The Garage," followed by the band's newest radio single "Dope Nose." Cuomo told the audience, which was apparently impressed with his guitar work, that he was going to "take them to school," teaching them how to play guitar. The set continued with a number of crowd-pleasers, including the rarely played "The Good Life," not performed for over a year.

Despite the hype surrounding the band's recent album, the most enjoyable songs of the evening were from their debut album: "My Name is Jonas," and "Say It Ain't So" rocked with even greater intensity than the studio effort.

Perhaps acknowledging the crowd's enjoyment of the songs from their debut album, the band played two more for the encore. The audience cheered unanimously in approval as the show ended with a storm of confetti during "Only in Dreams" followed by the culminating encore of "Buddy Holly" and "Surf Wax America."

The show ended with a rock cliché filled feedback jam from Cuomo.

As fans left with smiles on their faces, it was obvious that Weezer's increased popularity was well deserved. With a new album just around the corner, Weezer will no doubt continue to please with their geek rock for the masses.

Ballet Needs More Than Technique

(continued from page 20)

way through "Ancient Airs," when City Ballet star Ashley Bouder stepped back into an arabesque and fell to the floor, ribs and face first, with a thud. Like the figure skaters, it just wasn't her night.

I realized afterward, perhaps stupidly, that sometimes this sort of thing just happens. I am and always will be particularly harsh with figure skaters, but it took Bouder's fall during "Ancient Airs" to remind me that sometimes things just don't work as planned.

Sometimes, even after rehearsing down to the most mundane detail of performance, you will misstep and fall. It's been a while since I've taken the stage in pointe shoes, and so it's easy for me to forget the ease with which a performance can take a turn for the worse.

Perhaps even more important than technical ability in ballet and figure skating is graciousness and artistry.

To that end, both City Ballet and most of the figure skaters in last Thursday's competition did quite well. Bouder, after a rather loud gasp from the audience, shot back up and continued her variation flawlessly, and most of the skaters, particularly Kwan, compensated for a technically mediocre performance by continuing the program confidently and without hesitation.

What never goes, and cannot be learned is artistry. It is a component that cannot be overlooked.

Even worse than seeing a dancer or skater fail technically is seeing one who is a technical wizard, meaning that they possess the best physical attributes for the sport, flexibility, turnout and daintyness, among other things, but have no natural artistic ability. Abi Stafford, a 17-year-old City Ballet dancer who was appointed as a soloist in January 2002, danced flawlessly in the lead role of "Walpurgisnacht Ballet."

She was sharp and technically deft, but all the while robotic in her movement. It was painful to watch her. Since dance seemed to come so easily to her, it left me asking, "Do you really enjoy this, or are you just so talented that it would be a 'waste' to give it up?"

My thoughts regarding a polished performance in both skating and ballet thankfully evolved after City Ballet on Friday evening.

It's been a while since my ballet days, and it was easier to criticize in disbelief rather than to empathize. Skaters and dancers can spend their lives perfecting the technical component of their trade. That is the easy part, and thus, it's the part that is the first to go during a "bad performance."

What never goes, and what cannot be learned, is artistry. It is a component that I should not have overlooked during the figure skating competition.

Instead, I overlooked what is truly important, which is the overall quality of the performance, and in that respect, Thursday's figure skating competition saw no finer hour, especially when you consider the technical abominations that occurred throughout the evening.

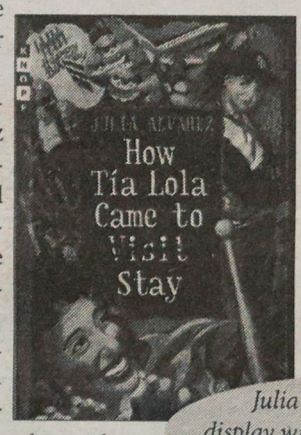
City Ballet, on the other hand, had perhaps the biggest blunder of all: a robotic dancer who is lauded as a "young star," and rising through its ranks at an alarming pace, leaving some of the more pleasant-to-watch dancers in the anonymity of the *corps*. It's no surprise, however.

The ballet world is filled with people like me, those who speak before they think in answering a question that truly has no answer: what makes a good dancer? Thankfully, I've been in the audience long enough to know that it's not just the technique.

Faculty Authors Speak Candidly About Books

(continued from page 20)

small college town in Vermont and are joined by their wacky Tía Lola, who can't speak English but, like the Mary Poppins of British fame, has some tricks up her sleeve."



Julia Alvarez's book is on display with other faculty books in the Starr Library lobby.

At the reception, Alvarez jokingly, yet fittingly, tagged the book, "Vermont meets the Dominican Republic."

After the official introduction of their books, authors welcomed conversation about the nature of their literary work. When asked whether he uses his own texts in the classroom, Stewart Professor of English and Environmental Studies John Elder said that he has in fact enjoyed using his literature in the past for courses such as Visions of Nature.

However, Elder denounced unethical self-promotion by saying that he always puts plenty of copies on reserve at Starr Library and does not expect his students to purchase expensive hardcover editions.

Elder recognized the possibility that using his own texts as assigned reading for courses could present tension between him and his students.

Specifically, depending upon the nature of the work, a student may feel disinclined to disagree with a display of expertise in the form of a book written by their professor. Elder hoped that this hesitancy was not the case in his classroom.

In his notes on the back of the reception's program, Bob Buckeye, special collections librarian and author of "Pressure Drop," also included in this year's display, neatly summed up the worth of having faculty authors as members of a college community: "On college campuses, books circulate in several ways. In the most basic sense of the mission of a school, books by its faculty tie the world of scholarship to that of teaching. The scholarship of a teacher finds palpable form in a book just as his scholarship, in its other, complementary function, realizes itself in a classroom. The book is the body and blood of scholarship. The classroom is the crucible for thought."

The College Store has designated a special shelf to spotlight faculty authors as well as a link on their Web site focused on the College's faculty authors.

The link can be found at http://www.middlebury.edu/%7Estore/booksfac.html. A wide selection of books is available and can be ordered directly from the store's secure Web page.

Skiers Finally Overcome Dartmouth

(continued from page 28)

ing the women a win over Dartmouth by 18 points.

The large crowd that came to see the women's race stuck around for the men, as they were the last ones down in the afternoon. With rowdy students and fans celebrating Carnival weekend, Conrad sliced his way to his best individual finish of the season, in second place. The cheers were loudest for Conrad, in his final race at the Bowl as fans propped on the final pitch of the mountain acknowledged his and all the seniors' efforts.

Rusten showed he will be a carnival mainstay for three more years as the first-year fought in his second run to earn 39 points that come along with fourth place. Fred Emich IV '04 came in 14th. Fred Coriell '02, the team captain and member of the band Grenade, which rocked until the early hours of the morning at the Farm that night, finished his Carnival career in 19th. Not to be forgotten was Rygg who had some trouble in the first run, setting him off the lead pace by an insurmountable five seconds. In the second run after nearly 50 other racers had started in front of him, Rygg skied down, noticed only by his teammates and astute competitors, to a time of 1:01.40, the fastest second run of any competitor on the mountain. He finished in 36th, but proved that two runs constitute a whole race.

Courtesy Photo

Jess Smith '05 completes her winning run down the giant slalom.

With help from its nordic counterpart, Middlebury edged Dartmouth and nearly beat UVM, falling by just 22 points over the two days. The Panthers now have over a week to recover from the Carnival season. At the beginning of next week the team will pack up and travel to the Division I NCAA National Skiing Championships in Anchorage,Alaska.

It was announced Tuesday by the NCAA that Middlebury will send the maximum of 12 participants to the Championships. Three men and three women from the Alpine team will be part of the competition, which begins on March 6. Based on merit, Conrad, Rusten and Rygg will ski for the men while Brophy, Davison and Smith will compose the women's team. With the maximum number of participants representing the school, Middlebury stands a chance of contending for the National Championship.

Moon Running

Louisa Conrad

Amidst the glow of afternoon moonlight, *a member of the women's lacrosse team works out on South Main Street.*

Slow Start Dooms Title Hopes for Women's Hoops

(continued from page 28)

their run and held on at the end. It was one of the best games all year. It was a really good win for us."

The loss to Bowdoin spelled the end of the season for Middlebury, which finished with a sterling 22-5 record. It was one of the Panthers best seasons, but the team saw it as successful on the court as off.

Hanley thought the team did better than "anyone ever anticipated, in terms of not just results but relationships on the team. The leadership from our seniors [Lauren Amen and McCosker] was amazing.

It was probably our most successful season both in terms of results and consistency," said Pecsok. "Everyone involved considered it a great season."

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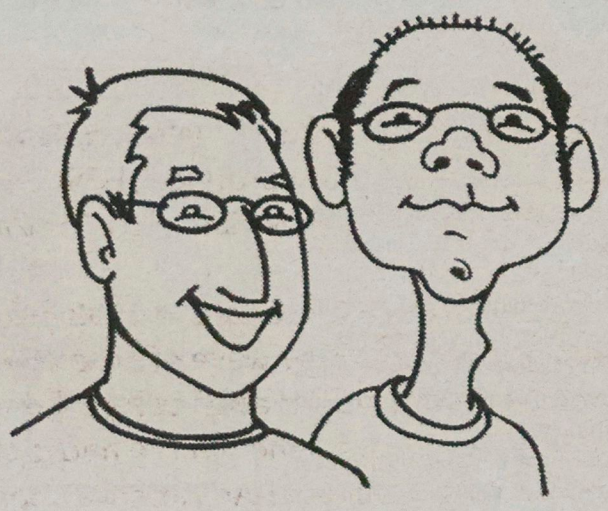

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Adrian Rocks Competition at New England Championships

By Erich Kahner
Staff Writer

While the majority of the Middlebury Indoor Track team's season ended a few weeks ago, several panthers are still on the prowl. Last weekend a handful of Middlebury athletes took to the track at Tufts' Gantcher Center to compete in the Open New England Championships. Seven Middlebury women joined a field of 43 teams — including many Division I schools — and over 450 athletes.

Among the highlights of the meet was junior Michela Adrian's victory in the women's 5000-meter race with a time of 17:20.02. Adrian and Maura Danahy of Connecticut College made it a two-woman race as they broke away early from the rest of the pack. The race came down to the wire with Danahy staying on Adrian's tail as long as she could, but Adrian put on a furious surge during the last lap to dispense of Danahy, beating her by a slim margin of .56 seconds.

"The last 200 was really fast," Adrian said of her blazing final lap. "We ran it in 37 (seconds)," which is, notably, on pace for a 4:56 mile. Adrian's time was the second fastest ever run by a Panther and made her an automatic qualifier for indoor nationals on March 8.

The women's distance medley also had a strong showing. The team of Meredith Bazirgan '02, Maryanne Porter '04, Adri Logalbo '03 and Molly Yazwinski '04 placed eighth against very speedy competition.

Although their time of 12:26.45 fell just short of qualifying them for nationals, they still have another shot this weekend when they travel back to Tufts for Eastern College Athletic Conference championship.

The women can qualify provisionally if they are among the 12 fastest in the nation, but distance coach Nicole Wilkerson thinks that with the stiff competition this year, they may have to best the automatic qualifying time of 12:08 to guarantee them a trip. "We have to go automatic. It's likely that 12:08.3 won't even get us in."

With this gutsy group of women on the track, a trip to nationals is definitely in the picture.

Andy Boyer '02 was the lone representative of the men's track team to qualify for the post-season, and participated in the 55-meter high-hurdles last weekend, making strides toward becoming competitive at the national level. Other competitors at New England's were Jess Kosciewicz '04 in the 200-meter and Hannah Huegel '04 in the long jump.

Nordic Team Intent on Alaska Finale

Bryan McQuade

Simon Isaacs '03.5 dashes for the mens nordic team while Meghan Sands '02 holds off a competitor.

(continued from page 28)

marks the first time such a result has occurred this season. Placing five racers in the top 17, it was truly a team effort for the Panthers.

Patzer again led the team, nearly taking the event by finishing in second place just one second behind Claudia Reithofer from UVM. Whitcomb herself finished just one- tenth of a second out of fourth position, as she and Patzer were among the five in the lead pack at the finish. Crucial results for the women were Newick in 11th and Berkley Leach '04 in 15th. Johnson was not to be forgotten as she clocked a quick time and aided in the win with a 17th place finish.

The men had a tougher time with the mass-start freestyle event yet still managed to place fourth, behind Dartmouth, with three racers in the top 15 slots.

Rogers, Weston and Helminski finished in the order and showed they are worthy candidates to represent the nordic team in Anchorage. The format will challenge the nordic team in the NCAA Championships, since it will be the same that it encountered this past weekend. The first race on Thursday, March 7 will be a classical setup with the women racing five kilometers and the men 10.

On Saturday, March 9 the teams will participate in a freestyle format with the men skiing 20 kilometers and the women 15. Though the competition will be stiffer, the team hopes for results like it had this weekend, as it would mean a good chance for the Panthers to garner a top national finish.

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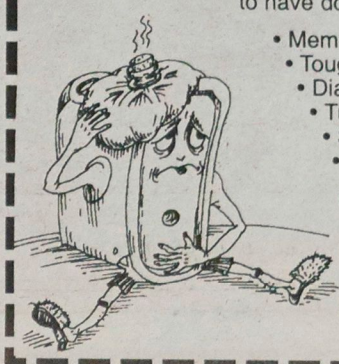

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Mr. Kashif Zafar '92
Managing Director, Credit Suisse First Boston

- **Date:** Thursday, March 14, 2002
- **Time:** 6 – 8 p.m.
- **Venue:** DB Capital Partners
  31 West 52nd Street, New York

Refreshments will be served

RSVP: sic@middlebury.edu (for security reasons there will be **no admittance to the building unless your name is on the list**)

For inquiries, contact: Mashrib Zahid '02 (X-4751)
Eli Sugarman '02 (X-4575)
Saad Kamal '03 (X-3989)

SUNDAY MARCH 3
A SUNDAY COLLOQUIUM:
JEFFERSON/HEMINGS/SLAVERY

1:30 Film: Twilight Auditorium. **"Jefferson's Blood."** The "Frontline" PBS documentary on President Jefferson's relationship with slave Sally Hemings. The Oscar-nominated producer, Thomas Lennon, will be present at the screening and will take questions about his career as an ndependent filmmaker.

4:00: Twilight Auditorium. **"Jefferson, Hemings and Slavery"**: Panel discussion with Thomas Lennon (producer, PBS), David G. Post (Intellectual Property, Temple Law School), William Hart (History) and Will Nash (Am. Civ/Lit).

"DNA evidence presented in 1998 linking Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemings set off a new wave of scholarly and popular reappraisals of Thomas Jefferson. But even before the reports of Dr. Foster's DNA findings, America seemed in the midst of a Jefferson resurgence. Who was Thomas Jefferson? An American sphinx? A slaveholding hypocrite? Every generation of Americans since the Revolution has looked to understand Jefferson in order to understand itself." (Frontline)

6:30: Dinner, Cook Commons Faculty House: "A Jeffersonian Dinner in the Italian Style". Music and informal discussion of Thomas Jefferson as lover of all things Italian. Meet film producer Thomas Lennon ("Jefferson's Blood"), Jefferson-scholar David Post (Temple), and professors William Hart (History) and Will Nash (Am Civ/Lit).

All are invited. Reservations required. Call x5853

Panther Swimmers Outpaced by Williams at NESCAC Finals

By Meghan Dwyer
Staff Writer

This past weekend the Middlebury College women's swimming and diving team competed in the second annual New England Small College Athletic Conference Championships (NESCAC) at Williams College. The meet, which lasted three days, marked the end of the season for most of the team, and it could not have ended on a better note.

The high level of energy and excitement that the team displayed resulted in a number of season-best performances earned Middlebury third place in the meet, just behind Williams and Amherst.

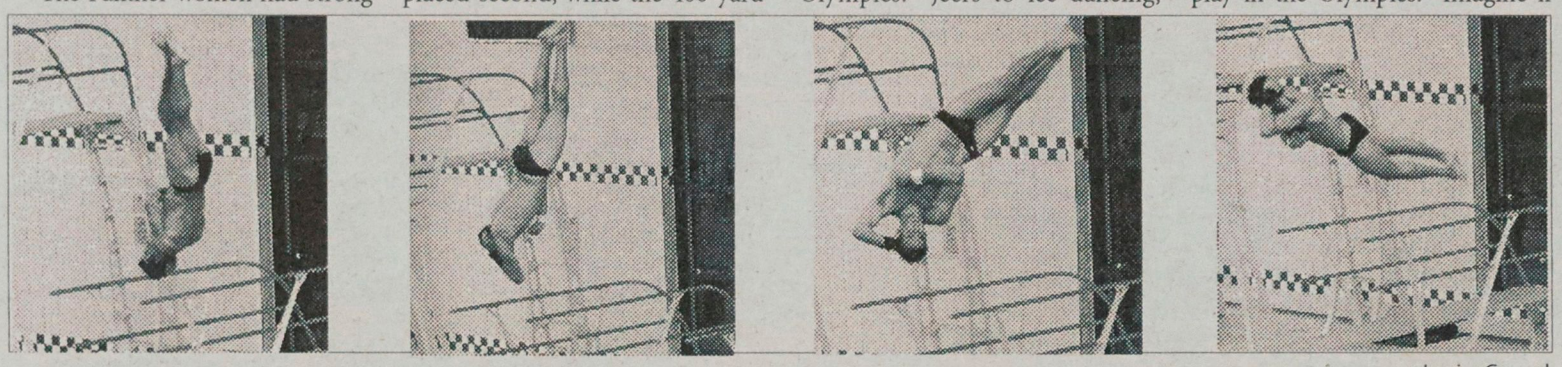
Sophomores Lizzy DeWitt and Kellianne Egan earned the title of NESCAC Champions, each winning one of their events. Dewitt took the 50-yard backstroke with a time of 28.21, while Egan captured the 1000-yard freestyle with a time of 10:34.43, setting the meet record and making the National B cut in the event.

The Panther women had strong performances all around, placing in the top eight in nearly every event. Mandy Smeal '02, Katie Tallon '02, K. Egan, Sarah Groff '04, DeWitt and Kate Miller '05 finished in the top eight in all of their individual events, with Smeal, Egan, Groff, Dewitt and Miller making the National B cut times in their respective events. First-year Kelly Quinn broke the school's varsity record in the 50-yard breaststroke, placing third overall in that event, while diver Tessa Truex '05 placed fifth in the one-meter diving competition.

Strong relays contributed greatly to the team's success, with each relay making National B-cut times. The 200-yard freestyle relay of Martha Goebel '04, Amanda Macomber '02, Lauren King '05 and Smeal finished second overall, while the 200-yard Medley relay of DeWitt, Quinn, Smeal and Goebel and the 400-yard Medley relay of DeWitt, Quinn, Smeal and King both finished fourth in the meet.

The 800-yard freestyle relay of DeWitt, Egan, King and Groff placed second, while the 400-yard freestyle relay of Goebel, King, Groff and DeWitt ended the meet on a markedly high note, coming in third place overall.

For the seniors, this championship meet was bittersweet, as it marked the end of great swimming careers. Jamie Davidson, Shannon Egan, Kara Leibel, Macomber, Smeal, Tallon and Becky Swenson all swam in their last meet ever, and they proved again and again how valuable they are to the team, and how much they will be missed. The incredible contributions the women have made in and out of the pool during the last four years make them a truly special class. With season best times for all seven of them, this weekend could not have ended on a more perfect note. The team looks forward to the men's NESCAC Championship at Wesleyan University this weekend and the Division III National Championship meet March 14-17 at the University of Miami of Ohio.



Louisa Conrad

Derek Chicarilli '02 practices in hopes of defending his NESCAC and NCAA titles in the men's swim team's upcoming competitions.

Curling, Ice Dancing and French-Baiting

(continued from page 27)

everyone ahead of him fell in the last turn. Jeers to the American crowd, who booed the winner when Apolo Anton Ohno was beaten in a race — real classy.

Cheers to Michelle Kwan, who was dignified and graceful in defeat. Jeers to Sarah Hughes, whose peppy, grating personality reminds me a lot of Scott Hamilton. Cheers also to Sasha Cohen, whose long program rendition of Carmen was one of the more original and dramatic performances we've seen in a while. Cheers to Jamie Salé, who had the cutest, um…accent, in the Olympics. Jeers to ice dancing, which is the most unwatchable sport in all of the Olympics.

Cheers to curling, which is a sport I will never, ever make fun of again. The lunch hour telecasts in Hamlin got me hooked. Anyone else want to start a curling club at Middlebury? Jeers to freestyle skiing and aerial skiing, which are getting old just as fast as they are running out of new tricks.

Cheers to the hockey tournament. I could have written an entire piece on hockey alone. The games were great, heart-stopping entertainment, proof of why everyone pushed so hard to get NHL stars to play in the Olympics. Imagine if Shaq and the rest of the Dream Team had to play five other equally good dream teams in basketball, and you'll get a fair idea why this whole tournament was so great. Jeers to the U.S. biased refereeing in the women's hockey final, which would have resulted in another embarrassing judging scandal if Canada hadn't won.

Cheers to the CBC, for its consistently excellent Olympic coverage that shames the American networks. Jeers to Don Cherry, who throughout the hockey tournament proved himself to be both a sore loser and a bad winner with his rude and xenophobic rhetoric.

Jeers to the Russian Federation and the South Koreans for their divisive and bitter complaints, and jeers to the American media for their pressure tactics. A pox on both your houses.

And cheers to the greatest Olympic sport of all, which is French-baiting. When in doubt, blame it on the French judge. So good-bye Olympics, like the children of light say, happy trails until we meet again.

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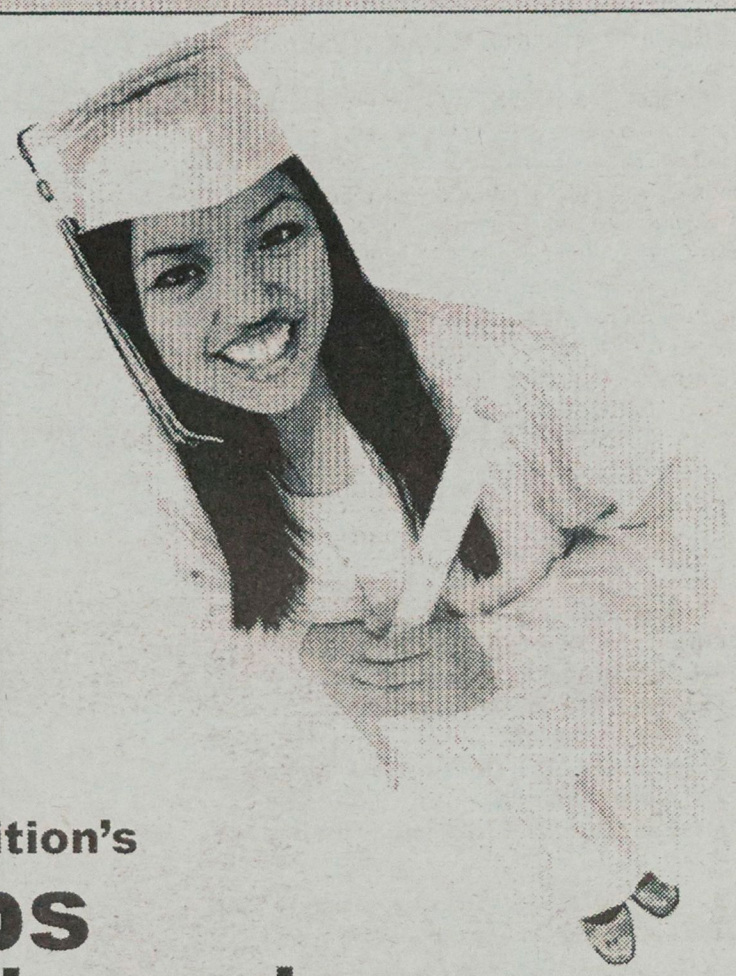

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Men's Hockey Heads NESCAC Field in Tourney

By David Lindholm
Sports Editor

Louisa Conrad
The men's hockey team has been going hard all week in preparation for this weekend's NESCAC tournament.

At the very least, the Middlebury men's hockey team will be fresh heading into Saturday's New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) semifinal match against Colby College. After winning the NESCAC title this season, the Panthers earned the right to host the end of season tournament, which will send the winner into the NCAA tournament.

While Middlebury rested, Colby was battling for NESCAC survival. The White Mules are coming off a huge win last week over Hamilton. Despite their sixth seed in NESCAC at the end of the season, Colby traveled to New York and demolished their hosts, the third-seeded Continentals. Only one week earlier, Hamilton had come away with a 5-2 win at Colby, but in the rematch it was the Mules who earned the right to make the trip to Middlebury.

The Panthers will have to be wary of a Colby team that is capable of upsets, especially on the road. In addition to the playoff win over Hamilton, the Mules had also recently knocked off a Bowdoin College team, now ranked seventh nationally. Colby now owns a record of 15-6-3.

The Panthers have won 12 straight games, and have had sufficient time to prepare for this Saturday's match-up at 12:30 p.m. in Kenyon Arena.

"Every year we won the national championship [1995-1999] we had a break like this, an opportunity to recharge our batteries," said Head Coach Bill Beaney. "The trick of it is not to lose that competitive spirit."

In Saturday's other match, fourth-seed Trinity College will take on second-seed Bowdoin. The Polar Bears have been faltering in recent weeks and were barely able to squeak by an Amherst College team that had a 6-13-5 record coming into the game. Bowdoin is still considered one of the nation's top teams, but has lost their only three matches of the year in the last three weeks.

Trinity, who calmly disposed of Williams last weekend by a score of 4-1, is on their top form. In their last 14 games, the only two losses have come to Middlebury and Bowdoin.

The Bantams will be looking for an upset and revenge on an earlier loss when they face the Polar Bears at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, one hour after the end of the Middlebury game.

Women's Puck Starts Defense at NESCACs

By David Lindholm
Sports Editor

While the Middlebury women's hockey team may be on the prowl for revenge against streak-enders Manhattanville College, first comes the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) playoffs, held this weekend in Kenyon Arena. The Panthers, who saw their Division III winning streak come to an end this season, now look to defend their NESCAC Championship, a title that they have won for the past six seasons.

Standing in the way is Middlebury's biggest rival, fourth-seeded Williams College, coming off a 7-1 thrashing of Wesleyan last week in Williamstown. The Ephs stand with a record of 14-9-1 on the season, but are 0-2 against Middlebury so far this season. In the first match between the two teams this season, the Panthers defended their home ice with a vengeance, winning 8-0 on Jan. 16. However, in the most recent meeting, Middlebury emerged from Williams with a slim 3-2 victory.

The Panthers are heavily favored to win the NESCAC tournament, and as the top-ranked team in the country, they are also favored to win the ensuing National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) tournament. Two wins this weekend would give the team confidence heading into the NCAA tournament. However, they will have to get by not only Williams, but also the winner of the Bowdoin College and Colby College match.

Bowdoin has been only slightly behind Middlebury all season in the rankings, and is currently fourth nationally.

Colby started strong, but has been weak in away games of late, losing at Bowdoin 10-1 and Middlebury 8-0, but when the Mules hosted those two teams, the scores were a 2-2 tie and 3-2 loss, respectively.

The game will be played at 4 p.m. on Friday, and the winners of the two semifinals will face each other at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday.

File Photo/Louisa Conrad
The women's hockey team hosts the NESCAC Tournament beginning on Friday night.

Panther Hockey Looks North for Inspiration

By David Lindholm
Sports Editor

Finally showcasing my skills as a master prognosticator, here are my picks for this weekend's tournaments to be held in Kenyon Arena, as the Panthers try to duplicate Team Canada's dual gold medals in hockey.

Women's Semifinal: Colby vs. Bowdoin – Friday, 4 p.m.

Despite their good showing against Bowdoin last Wednesday, the White Mules will be unable to fend off another Polar Bear onslaught. Star forward Shelly Chessie '03, one of the nation's top players, and first-year Kirsti Anderson, who has been on fire of late, **will lead Bowdoin to a 4-1 victory.**

Women's Semifinal #2: Middlebury vs. Williams – Friday, 7 p.m.

Williams played the Panthers close last time the teams met, but in the match that Middlebury hosted earlier in the season the Panthers won 8-0. Look for this game to have a final score somewhere in between those first two, with **the Panthers winning 5-1.**

Women's Final: Middlebury vs. Bowdoin – Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

No surprises here: the teams that were ranked first and second in the country for much of the season will battle it out for the NESCAC title. Both teams will depend on their strong defenses, which will result in a cautious game marked by few goals. However, Bowdoin will be broken down by the Panthers early in the extra session, as **Middlebury prevails 2-1 in OT.**

Men's Semifinal #1: Middlebury vs. Colby – Saturday, 12:30 p.m.

The Panthers will rely on Christian Carlsson '02 to come up with a few big saves on counter-attacks as the Panthers are on the offensive throughout the game. An early goal and a late goal will give **Middlebury a 2-0 win.**

Men's Semifinal #2: Trinity vs. Bowdoin – Saturday, 4 p.m.

Upset-hunting Bantams will get their wish, as Bowdoin continues their run of sub-par results. The Polar Bears are ranked seventh in the country, but Trinity is playing better than they have all year and will **win in a war, 3-2 to Trinity.**

Men's Final: Middlebury vs. Trinity – Sunday, 1 p.m.

Middlebury, resembling Team Canada in the Olympics, will take both of the NESCAC titles. Trinity will be worn out by its tough game the day before and won't be able to keep up with the superior speed and skill exhibited by our Panthers, who cruised on Saturday. Middlebury will win relatively easily. **Final score: Middlebury 4, Trinity 1.**

Cheers and Jeers for the Olympics

By Peter Yordan
Staff Writer

Like some far-traveling and exotic relative, the Olympics have blown in and out of our collective sporting lives over the past few weeks. The Olympics have always occupied a unique and prestigious place in the pantheon of sport. Every four years they bring together the nations of the world for a whirlwind of pageantry and athletic spectacle. Few triumphs are as definitive as a gold medal, and few failures are as bitter as a fall after four years of preparation. The Winter Olympics have always held a special place in my heart. My first Olympic memories are of the games in Albertville in 1992. I remember being inspired to fashion a luge out of a sled and a pair of hockey sticks. My design didn't survive the first test run, but I was hooked on the kooky sports and low-key atmosphere of the Winter Games for good.

Flash forward 10 years to Salt Lake City. It was with barely restrained glee that I set out my TV schedule to maximize my Olympic intake. I was more than willing to put up with Bob Costas' heavy make-up and relentless posturing in order to see all of my old friends like biathlon and short track speed skating again. And the Olympics really did provide two full weeks of compelling entertainment, drama and acrimony. If you are patriotically inclined, the USA came away with a record total of 34 medals, which is well over twice as many as their previous best medal count. There were plenty of dark moments as well, beginning, of course, with the bidding scandal which almost sunk these games two years ago, and ending with judging scandals and doping charges which threatened at times to consume the games. To everyone's relief, however, there were no terrorist threats against the Olympics, leaving people free to revel in the accomplishments of their athletes of choice.

Here are my personal highlights and lowlights — my cheers and jeers — from the 2002 Winter games.

Cheers to President Bush for bravely taking part in the opening ceremony and standing amongst the American athletes. Jeers to lighting the fire within, the lamest slogan ever. Cheers to Willy Nelson for his singing in the closing ceremony, and jeers to those ridiculous talking dinosaurs also in the closing ceremony.

Cheers to Bode Miller, whose hard-charging skiing style is inspiring, even if it probably cost him a third medal in slalom. Cheers also to Janica Kostelic of Croatia, who became the first alpine skier ever to win four medals in one games. I got a kick out of how she couldn't help grinning every time she nailed a turn on her final Giant Slalom run.

Cheers to 5'4" speedskater Derek Parra, who reminded everyone that you don't have to be some six foot Nordic wonder to win a gold medal. Cheers also to Stephen Bradbury of Australia, who won a gold medal in short track speed skating when

(see Curling, page 26)

On Wings of Alpine Ascendance, Team Off to Great White North

By Andrew Zimmermann
Sports Editor

With everyone attentive and watching over Winter Carnival weekend, the Middlebury ski team as a whole turned out its best performance of the year, aided significantly by motivated racing from the alpine team. Having finished in third place for the majority of the carnival circuit, Middlebury forged ahead of Dartmouth College to capture a second place result behind the University of Vermont (UVM). The Panthers did so in the most important race of the regular season in what constitutes the Eastern Intercollegiate Skiing Association championships, which plays host to 18 teams from as far away as Michigan.

The weekend of competition kicked off at the Snow Bowl early Friday morning with the first run of the slalom. Both the men and women took to the hill skiing the same run at separate times and then repeated the process for the afternoon run. First-year slalom specialist Lea Davison was in second place after the first run, with a time of 46.07. Her teammates Sarah Brophy '02 and Brie Pike-Sprenger '04 also headed to lunch with solid prospects for a top 10 finish.

In the afternoon the top 15 racers from the first run switched, meaning Davison started 14th in the afternoon race. Despite increasingly difficult conditions, the poised first-year proceeded to decimate the field by easily taking the second run and winning the race by an unheard of margin of nearly 1.5 seconds. Team captain Brophy, skiing in her final slalom race at the Bowl, garnered an eighth place finish with Pike-Sprenger behind her in ninth. The women's squad fell just one point shy of tying UVM for first place in the event, a conclusion it would not let allow to happen again in the giant slalom (GS) the next day.

The men were led by John Rusten '05. As he has done all year, the versatile first-year has proven to be among the East's top collegiate contenders regardless of venue or race. He took second in the slalom and made a valiant effort for the win by winning the second run, making the final result a close one. Tyler Conrad '02, a key racer down the stretch, continued his fast skiing in his final year by placing sixth. Teammate Eric Rygg '03 showed versatility of his own by taking 11th.

The GS on Saturday was the better of the Panthers' days as they combined to win the second day of competition and solidify Middlebury's much-deserved result. The women's team was dominant and the men nearly pulled the upset of UVM, falling just four points shy of toppling the giants from the north.

Bryan McQuade
James Cochran '05 cuts a sharp turn around the giant slalom course at the Snow Bowl on Saturday morning.

The GS leader board looked like a "Who's Who" of Middlebury women's alpine skiing as five of the top eight finishers were clad in Panther blue. Jessica Smith '04 won her first GS race of the year after a steady ascension to the top. Smith has also added three wins in the slalom discipline as well. Pike-Sprenger came in fourth followed by Laura Scripture '04 who finished fifth despite having a sub-par second run. Brophy and Davison rounded out the bunch with seventh and eighth place results, giv-

(see Skiers, page 24)

Lively Second Day Defines Nordic's Carnival Run

By Andrew Zimmermann
Sports Editor

After its best result of the season in the Middlebury Carnival, the nordic ski team will send six of its members to the NCAA National Championships in Anchorage, Alaska. Shams Helminski '02, Colin Rogers '04 and Tim Weston '03, who played an integral role in the weekend's success, will go to Alaska along with Kate Newick '04, Hillary Patzer '02 and Kate Whitcomb '04. Middlebury, carried by the strength of these members and others on its team, came in second as host of the Middlebury Carnival. The result was a season best for the team.

The nordic squad had a beautifully warm weekend to race at its home course of the Rikert Touring Center and turned in a solid performance. The highlight included the women's team winning the 15-kilometer freestyle event on day two, which began with a mass-start. Throughout the weekend the Panthers never finished below fourth as a team in any event.

On Friday the staggered five-kilometer classical event took place for the women while the men skied the same format at 10-kilometers. Patzer, who proved to be the dark horse in both events, cruised to a second place finish in the classical race. Her teammates Whitcomb, Diana Johnson '05 and Newick clustered at places 13, 14 and 15 respectively to ensure a third place team result overall in the event.

Ski Team

Friday-Saturday, Febraury 23-24

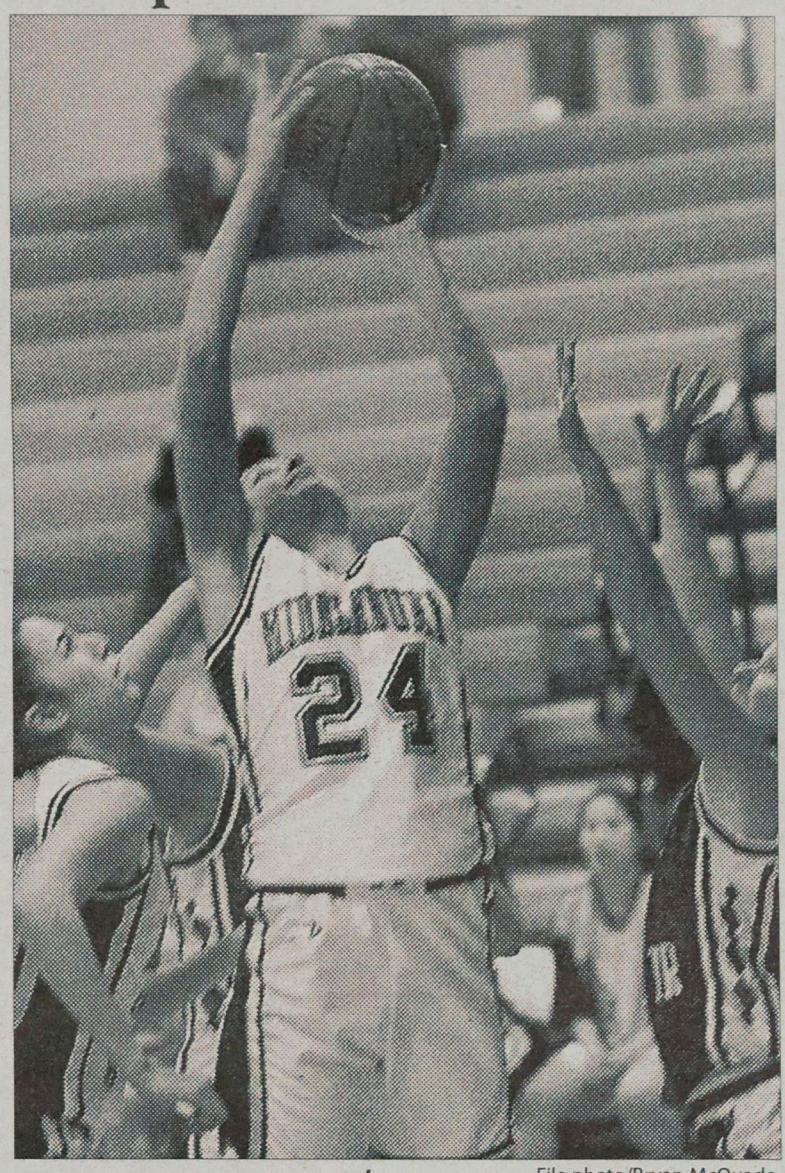
UVM	1st
Middlebury	2nd
Dartmouth	3rd

The men raced to a tie for third place with the University of New Hampshire (UNH). Helmiski continued the strong racing of senior skiers both nordic and alpine with a third place finish. Torgeir Lien of the University of Vermont (UVM) proved himself to be skiing in another dimension by undercutting the field by 1:17.6 in a race just over six miles in length. Men's captain Weston bustled to seventh. The next closest Middlebury finisher was Marshall Greene '04 in 32nd. The Panthers missed the likes of Rogers, perhaps the squad's most talented skier, as he was disqualified.

Like the alpine team, day two promised even better results for the nordic team as it enjoyed a breakout performance. The women's squad put all its resources together and beat UVM in the 15-kilometer freestyle by a score of 111 to 110. It

(see Nordic, page 25)

Hoopsters Fall in Heroic Surge to NESCAC Throne



File photo/Bryan McQuade
Alexis Batten '04 puts back a rebound in a game last month at Pepin.

By David Lindholm
Sports Editor

Bowdoin College proved too strong for the Panthers as the Middlebury women's basketball team fell in the finals of the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) tournament. Bowdoin, one of the top teams in the nation, got out to an early lead with exceptional shooting en route to a 68-57 victory over Middlebury. The Panthers had defeated Bates the day before to earn their spot in the NESCAC final.

The Panthers knew they would have their work cut out for them before the game against Bowdoin, the hosts of the tournament. The Polar Bears finished with a 24-1 record on the season, topping the NESCAC standings, and showed why against Middlebury, hopping out to a 28-9 lead halfway through the first session.

Bowdoin used stellar shooting and tough defense to stifle the Panthers early. Head Coach Noreen Pecsok cited the Polar Bears' "really good defense," and guard Kristin Hanley '03 looked to Bowdoin's exceptional shooting from the floor as reasons for the early deficit. However, led by strong play of guards Hanley and Megan McCosker '02, the women were able to fight back and cut the lead to 12 before the break. Hanley finished the game with 15 points, leading the team, and McCosker was right behind with 14.

"[In the first] we were taking quick shots," said Pecsok. "We really settled down in the second." The Panthers hung tough with Bowdoin and went on a late run, scoring 17 of the game's final 19 points, but were unable to overcome the Bowdoin lead. "I wasn't disappointed with the game," said Pecsok. "They are a very good team."

If it was the guards that led the team on Sunday, it was the forwards who made their presence felt on Saturday in a great 61-56 win over Bates. This time, it was the Panthers who jumped out to the early lead, going up 14-5 only five minutes into the first half. Middlebury continued to extend their lead, and went into halftime up 15 points at 36-21.

Bates refused to give up, however, as they cut the lead to only two points with 7:17 left to play in the game. But Middlebury was not to be denied, as Hanley drained two key three-pointers to increase the lead to 11 points with three minutes remaining to ice the victory for the Panthers. Alexis Batten '04 led the Panthers with 18 points, while Wesley Hyatt '03 scored 11 and Alexis Hollinger '05 added 10.

"It was a real collective team effort," said Hanley. "We got out to an

(see Slow, page 24)